



ESTABLISHED 1859.

PRINCIPAL OFFICE, 42 CANNON STREET, LONDON, E.C.

BRANCH OFFICE :

NORMANBY CHAMBERS, MELBOURNE.

Published every Saturday.

Subscription 10s. per year, payable in advance ;
commencing from any date.

Post free to every country in the world. Single copies, 4d. each.

Supplied only to persons connected with the Trade.

For Australasian subscribers the subsidiary journal THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST OF AUSTRALASIA is included.

Literary Contents.

PAGE	PAGE
Abstracts of Patents 197	Editorial Notes (cont.):—
At the Counter 195	Pharmacy in Orange Free
Competition No. 11: Dispensing Labels (Illustrated)..... 186	State 194
Consuls' Reports 191	Foreign and Colonial..... 188
Correspondence:—	French Pharmaceutical News . 185
Preservation of Leeches 204	Gazette 190
Mr. Jones's Circular 204	Legal Reports 182
Mr. Schacht and Cutting	Medical Gleanings 193
Prices 204	New Companies 183
Dispensing Notes 204	Personalities 183
Legal Queries 205	Pharmaceutical Society of
Miscellaneous Inquiries 205	Ireland 181
Deaths 190	Practical Notes and Formulæ . 196
Drugs and Chemicals for Japan 189	Provincial Reports 180
Editorial Notes:—	Trade Marks Applied for 193
Pharmaceutical Council and	Trade Notes 190
Drug Companies 192	Trade Report:—
The Drug Trade in Japan .. 193	London 193
The Use of Brokers 193	New York..... 202
	Buda-Pesth 203

THE BOARD OF TRADE RETURNS for July show a decrease on the value of the total volume of our foreign trade as compared with the month of July, 1886, the figures (imports and exports together) being 53,681,155*l.*, against 54,029,978*l.* Yet, upon consideration of the detailed items, we meet with many satisfactory evidences of a growing expansion of the most important branches of trade, and these signs become still more pronounced upon comparing the figures for the first seven months of 1887 and 1886. From January to July 31 of the present year we bought from foreign nations a largely-increased quantity of raw materials for industrial purposes, and considerably more articles of food and drink than in the corresponding period of 1886. There has also been a very slight increase in the imports of foreign manufactured articles. On the other hand, there has been a most satisfactory growth in our exports of manufactured articles, notably in metals and machinery; but in articles of food and drink there is a steady fall in our shipments abroad, which, taken in conjunction with the still more rapid increase of our imports in these goods, proves that we become more and more dependent upon foreign nations (mostly extra-European) for our food supply. Our exports of foreign and colonial merchandise have increased by about 8 per cent., partly accounted for by the increased values of some staple articles since July last year, but which proves at the same time that our position as an emporium of colonial and foreign crude products has not been affected in such a measure as is frequently supposed by the growing desire on the part of merchants in the producing countries to deal directly with European consumers.

When turning to the commercial movement in articles more directly connected with the drug and chemical trades, we find a steady decrease in the values of the imports of the principal articles, most pronounced in the case of simple drugs, of which we received in round figures from January to July, 1885, 445,000*l.* worth; 1886, 430,000*l.*; and 1887, 360,000*l.* The figures relating to chemicals are 805,000*l.*, 782,000*l.*, and 768,000*l.* respectively. Of cinnamon, brimstone, and indigo the value imported is falling steadily. Cochineal and madder are rapidly approaching something

like extinction, and in gum arabic a large reduction is noticeable, though this article has been in such an abnormal position lately that no definite conclusions can be drawn from the figures relating to it. We are fairly well keeping up our trade in cutch and gambier, while fixed oils show an increase, and coal-tar dyes are yearly imported in larger and larger quantities. The most disquieting feature in the exports of our chemical products is the rapid decline in the alkali shipments, for which the protective policy of Russia, Germany, and France is mainly responsible. These countries, if the present rate of decline in their purchases is kept up, will soon cease to be customers of any magnitude. Our alkali shipments to the United States are keeping up fairly well, while the trade with Spain, Italy, and most extra-European countries is steadily growing. Bleaching powder has fallen off as regards bulk, but the value of the exports is slightly higher than in the first seven months of 1886.

Our exports of drugs and medicinal preparations, soaps, and colours and paints are extremely satisfactory, and show that, at any rate as regards the two latter branches of business, we have little to fear from competition. Drugs and medicines, in round figures, we exported from January to July, 1885, to the extent of 467,000*l.*; 1886, 476,000*l.*; and 1887, 482,000*l.* The figures relating to paints and colours are 731,000*l.*, 742,000*l.*, and 764,000*l.* respectively. The value of foreign chemical products, re-exported *via* Great Britain, which fell from 153,000*l.* in the first seven months of 1885 to 95,000*l.* in the corresponding period of 1886, has this year suddenly advanced again to 158,000*l.*, for which movement it seems difficult to find an explanation. Our re-exports of cutch, gums, shellac, and oils remain practically unaltered, while of cinchona bark both the imports and re-shipments have largely grown in bulk, but declined in value.

POISONING CASES.—Emily Poole, a married woman, at Hastings obtained three pennyworth of laudanum and swallowed the whole; but on the husband coming home immediately afterwards he sent for a doctor, who administered an emetic, and she was saved. She was taken before the magistrates, and stated that her reason for taking the poison was that she was unhappy at home, and would rather die than go back. She was committed for trial at the assizes, and admitted to bail, her husband in 50*l.* and two sureties of 25*l.* each.

A man named Isaac Hallywell was found dead on the mountain side at Pentre with some oxalic acid in a bottle, of which it was supposed he had taken some, perhaps inadvertently, as he used it in his trade. He had been "on the spree" for a fortnight, and had no money to pay for lodgings.

Quartermaster Armitage, 6th Brigade North Irish Division Royal Artillery, stationed at Dungannon, committed suicide by taking cyanide of potassium on Monday night. He had been ordered to go and see his commanding officer, but instead he went to a druggist's and purchased some cyanide of potassium, which is used for cleaning gold lace, and drank a glassful, dying a few minutes afterwards. He had previously written a note to his wife, saying that he had committed a serious crime and could not meet the commanding officer.

On the 5th inst. a man named Thomas Crotty, engaged in the wine and spirit trade, went to his home, at Tipton, the worse for drink, and whether by misadventure or design, he took about two ounces of [essential] oil of almonds. He was found in shocking agony, and although medical aid was promptly obtained, he died.

A married woman named Elizabeth Jones, living at Walton, near Liverpool, endeavoured to poison herself with vermin-killer, but by proper treatment she recovered. There had been some unpleasantness between her husband and herself owing to the presence in the house of a male lodger. She was brought before the county magistrates on Wednesday and remanded for seven days.

A young man named Alfred Charles Heath, residing at St. John's Lodge, Clapham Rise, died last week through using chloroform for neuralgia. The housemaid took up a cup of tea to him, and found him dead with a handkerchief in his hand holding it over his nose and mouth. At the inquest Dr. Frank William Holt said he had no doubt that death arose from inhaling chloroform. The deceased had probably thrown half an ounce of chloroform on the handkerchief.

Provincial Reports.

Items of news, and newspapers containing matters of interest to the trade, sent to the Editor, will much oblige.

BIRMINGHAM.

CHARGE OF ADMINISTERING A NOXIOUS DRUG.—At the Birmingham summer assizes on Friday last, before Mr. Justice Grantham, the woman Louisa Fairfax was charged with administering a noxious drug, with intent to do grievous bodily harm, to Sarah Ann Hall. The evidence for the prosecution was to the effect that the prisoner had given to the prosecutrix a draught and a bottle containing fluid, the effect of which was likely to occasion abortion. It appeared, however, from the evidence for the defence that the two women were not on speaking terms, and that the prosecutrix had only made the charge against the prisoner after she had been summoned by the latter for an assault. The judge pointed out the improbability of the accusation, and the jury promptly returned a verdict of "Not guilty."

THE CHARGE OF STEALING DRUGS.—At the same assizes Joseph Sims (30), warehouseman, was charged with stealing six gallons of petroleum, a quart of hair oil, twelve boxes of furniture paste, and other articles, the property of Richard Brown, his master, wholesale chemist, Springhill. We have previously mentioned the case. The evidence for the prosecution was to the effect that prisoner, who was delivering goods in a cart, was found to have in the cart certain articles in addition to those on the invoices he had with him. It transpired that the goods prisoner took out were ordered though prisoner had no invoices for them. The judge stopped the case and the jury acquitted the prisoner.

BRISTOL.

POISONING AN INFANT WITH CHLORODYNE.—At the summer assizes on August 6, before the Lord Chief Justice, Sarah Ellen Joseph (14), servant, was charged with the murder of Albert James Rudd Sloman, a child nineteen months old, on July 5, by chlorodyne. On June 28 the prisoner became general servant to a Mr. and Mrs. Sloman, tradespeople in Bristol. She had been an unsatisfactory servant. On the morning of July 5 Mrs. Sloman left the prisoner in the house alone with the deceased and other little children, locking the front door and taking the key with her. Before Mrs. Sloman left the prisoner inquired if she was going to tell her parents about her. Mrs. Sloman replied she should do so, whereupon the prisoner said her father would kill her. Rather more than an hour afterwards the prisoner attracted the attention of some neighbours, stating that the child was ill. A man living next door got over the wall into the garden of the house, and saw the child, who appeared in great pain. Mrs. Sloman returned at this moment, and the prisoner told her that the child was very ill, and she believed he was dying. Mr. Sloman was sent for, and on his arrival, finding the child smelt of chlorodyne, sent for a doctor and afterwards took the child to the hospital, where, in spite of all efforts to save its life, the child died soon afterwards. The jury found the girl guilty of manslaughter, but strongly recommended her to mercy. His lordship said he wished to give effect to the strong recommendation of the jury, and to take into consideration the prisoner's youth and the chances which were in life before her; but she had done a very cruel thing, because, without knowing what she did, she took a medicine bottle which, if she had read it, and she could read and write, she would have known contained poison, and administered to a little child, nineteen months old, enough of that poison to kill it. It was impossible for him to pass over such an act as that with a light sentence. The verdict of the jury had spared her life, but if they had been of opinion that she had done it to injure the child because she was offended with her mistress, of which there was strong evidence, her life must have been forfeited even at her tender age; but the jury had acquitted her of that part of the case, and therefore her life was saved. But he did not think he should be doing his duty if he did not pass a heavy sentence of imprisonment

upon her, which he did rather than send her into penal servitude, because she would be separated from others and would have time to reflect. The sentence upon her would be that she be imprisoned for twenty months.

CORK.

THE CHARGE OF WIFE MURDER.—The hearing of this case was resumed on Monday, Aug. 9. District Inspector J. D. Tyke deposed that he arrested the prisoner on July 23, and after cautioning him, charged him with having murdered his wife. He at first said nothing, and then he said, "My God, to think that a man of my time of life should commit murder!" Afterwards, as we were proceeding to the Brideswell, he said, "There is a God above who sees the villainy of this," or words to that effect. He asked me if he might see his sister, and I told him he must talk to no one except his solicitor unless the police were present. Sergeant Higgins stated that on the day of the last inquiry he was stationed behind the prisoner and overheard a conversation between the prisoner and his sister. Dr. Cross asked Miss Cross, "Did you see the two little packets about the length of my finger with some white powder?" "Yes," she replied, "I destroyed them with the other things." Miss Kirchoffer and Miss M. J. S. Jefferson, who had visited Mrs. Cross during her illness, and some other witnesses, including the servants, gave evidence, and the hearing was again adjourned.

LIVERPOOL.

MR. WARHURST'S PICNIC.—The managers, assistants, and friends of Mr. W. T. Warhurst, the well-known chemist of Bootle, Walton, and Liverpool, enjoyed their annual picnic on Monday, the 1st inst. West Kirby was the place selected, and about 100 persons participated in the outing, including several invited guests and a good number of ladies. Dinner and tea were provided at the West Kirby Hotel in excellent style, and a cricket match between married and single and many athletic competitions for prizes filled up the day. The party returned to Liverpool shortly after ten o'clock, after having spent one of the most enjoyable outings of the season. All were loud in their praises of the taste and kindness of Mr. Warhurst in providing such an excellent picnic.

CHARGE OF SHOOTING AGAINST A CHEMIST.—At the Liverpool Assizes on Saturday, before Mr. Justice Day, Alfred Hadfield Woolf (54), chemist, St. Helens, was indicted for having at Eccleston, on July 23, feloniously shot at John Weldon with intent to murder him. A second charge was preferred against the prisoner of having shot at Weldon with intent to do him grievous bodily harm. Mr. Weldon's evidence was to the effect that, hearing a disturbance in Woolf's garden, which was opposite his (Weldon's) house, he went to see what was the matter, and found that the prisoner was ill-treating his wife, and she was calling out "Murder!" Mr. Weldon went to them for the purpose of protecting the woman, and the prisoner then took her indoors. A little time afterwards the prosecutor heard a curious gurgling noise inside the prisoner's house, which led the prosecutor to believe that the violence was being repeated, and that there was something in the nature of strangling going on. A girl went and opened the door, when it was seen that the prisoner had his wife down on the floor, that her clothes were torn, and that she was bleeding from the face. When the prisoner saw Weldon he rushed at him, caught him by the head, and placed his thumbs over his eyes. A struggle ensued, and they both fell, prosecutor being uppermost. Weldon got up, and was going away, when the prisoner followed with a revolver in his hand, and fired four shots at him. A number of witnesses were called to corroborate the above statement, and Chief Constable Wood, of St. Helens, who apprehended Woolf, said that the prisoner, in answer to the charge, said that Weldon was on his property and had knocked one of his teeth down his throat, and that he must protect himself, and that he had a right to protect himself. The prisoner added that he had intended to lay an information against Weldon on the Monday. Mr. Shee, on behalf of the prisoner, contended that he never intended to shoot the prosecutor; that if he had intended he could not possibly have missed him in four shots at so short a distance. The prisoner had been struggling with his wife to keep her indoors because she was excited through drink.

Witnesses were also called to prove that the revolver was not pointed at the prosecutor, but at the left of him. The judge having summed up, the jury acquitted the prisoner.

MAIDSTONE.

SUPPLYING BOARDS OF GUARDIANS.—A case of importance to tradesmen contracting to supply public bodies came before Mr. Homersham Cox, at the West Kent County Court, at Maidstone on Friday last, when Mr. W. Johnson, of New Hythe Chemical Works, sued the Malling Board of Guardians for 10*l.* 12*s.* 3*d.* for goods supplied to that body. The action was brought in respect of a contract to supply the Guardians with oil, &c., and Mr. Norton, who appeared for plaintiff, said the contract was tendered for and accepted quarter by quarter. From the correspondence which had passed, he gathered that there was nothing for his Honour to decide except the technical defence which would be set up under the statute, which was that the plaintiff had debarred himself from payment by neglecting to send in his account in due course. His first account was dated for December 28, 1882, and the last March 22, 1883. On May 28, 1885, Mr. Wildes (the clerk to the Board) wrote to plaintiff stating that he was directed to acknowledge the receipt of his letter enclosing an account for 10*l.* 12*s.* 3*d.*, and in reply he was directed to state that the Guardians regretted their inability to discharge it as they were expressly debarred from doing so by statute law. Mr. Wildes said his Honour knew it was the practice of the Local Government Board that the accounts of boards of guardians should be made out half-yearly, and submitted to audit either on March 28 or September 29. In this case he would call evidence to show that repeated applications were made to plaintiff for his account by Mr. Larcon, a former master of the union; but he failed to send it in, and ultimately the half-yearly accounts were closed without being able to bring in particulars of plaintiff's account, and as plaintiff failed to send it in within three months of the half-year, the Guardians were positively prohibited from paying it. They had done all they possibly could to help the plaintiff, but as he would not help himself, all they could do was to regret that he had put himself in such a position. The Guardians were quite willing to pay the account, but the law would not let them do so. His Honour said he had no option in the matter but to give judgment for the defendants on the point of law. Plaintiff said he should certainly take the matter to a higher court.

MANCHESTER.

THE EXPLOSION AT A MANCHESTER CHEMICAL WORKS.—The inquiry was resumed on the 4th inst. at Manchester into the circumstances of the fire and explosion at the chemical works of Messrs. Roberts, Dale & Co., when a man named Martin was killed, and enormous damage done to the surrounding property. Colonel Majendie, of the Board of Trade, said he had made an examination into the disaster in order to report to the Secretary of State. After many experiments, in which he had the assistance of Professor Dupre and Sir F. Abel, he had come to the conclusion that the explosion was due to the fusion of picric acid and litharge, which had been stored a few yards apart from each other. So far as he knew, no experiments had ever been made before with these substances. He thought that picric acid might be included within the scope of the Explosives Act in such a way as to secure safety while not destroying a trade. The jury found that the fire which led to the explosion was caused by a man named Hyde smoking on the premises, and that picric acid and litharge had been accidentally mixed and fused owing to the negligent manner in which they were stored, thus causing the explosion and the death of Martin.

SPALDING.

ATTEMPTED SUICIDE BY AN EX-CHEMIST.—At the Spalding Police Court, on July 19, Richard Draper (40), formerly a chemist, but now a journeyman painter, was charged with attempting to commit suicide on the previous Friday. An old man entered prisoner's house and saw him hanging by a rope from the top of a door, and was too unnerved by the spectacle to cut him down. Fortunately a policeman passed at the time, and performed this office just in time to save

Draper's life. Some years ago prisoner attempted to poison himself. Draper, who is well connected, attributed the occurrence to drink, and he promised to sign a teetotal pledge if liberated. He had a wife and eight children dependent upon him. Prisoner was bound over for six months, himself in 20*l.* and two bonds in 10*l.* each, or six weeks' imprisonment.

ST. HELENS.

ACCIDENT AT MESSRS. BEECHAM'S WORKS.—A bricklayer was killed by falling from a scaffold while at work on the building which has been in course of erection for some months past for Messrs. Joseph Beecham & Sons, the famous pill manufacturers.

SCOTLAND.

ABERDEEN.

THE LONDON AND PROVINCIAL DRUG STORE (LIMITED), who have recently opened here, have a capital of 5,000*l.*, in 500 shares of 10*l.* each. On July 18, 100 shares were allocated as follows, and 5*l.* paid upon each:—George Cay, jun., wice merchant, 33; Charles Cay, tea merchant, 32; William Cay, preserve manufacturer, 30; George Morrison, grocer, 188 George Street, 1; James Smith Morton, grocer, 160 King Street, 1; Lewis Leslie George, engineer, 71 Skem Square, 1; George Horne, warchouseman, 53 Rose Street, 1; Frank Crossley, chemist, 27 Victoria Street, 1. The company announce that, "having secured the services of a qualified chemist, the proprietors beg to announce that they are in a position to undertake the dispensing of prescriptions. Prescriptions usually charged 1*s.* 4*d.* and 1*s.* 9*d.* will be charged 8*d.* and 9*d.*" In another handbill they assure the public that their "rule in fixing the price of an ordinary bottle of medicine is to calculate the lowest retail price of the drug ordered, leaving a small margin for bottle, labels, time, &c., but no charge is made for water." They quote 8*d.* for 4-oz., 9*d.* for 6-oz., 10*d.* for 8-oz., 1*s.* for 10-oz., and 1*s.* 3*d.* for 12 oz. bottles of ordinary medicines, and 4*d.* per dozen for pills, and they state that the usual prices charged by chemists and druggists are fully double these. This is not the fact as regards Aberdeen. It is, moreover, announced that the company have arranged with Messrs. Cay Brothers (see list of shareholders) "to act as our agents at their respective branches in Chapel Street, Rosemount Place, King Street, George Street, East North Street, and Millburn Street, Ferryhill. All prescriptions and orders left at any of their branches will be immediately despatched to the Drug Store, where they will receive prompt attention, and be delivered free at any desired address within the city boundaries."

EDINBURGH.

THE BRITISH PHARMACEUTICAL CONFERENCE.—Messrs. Dott, Gibson, Maben, and Kinninmont have already signified their intention to represent the North British Branch at the British Pharmaceutical Conference in Manchester.

LORD YOUNG'S REMARKS in the Leith Dépôt case have naturally tended to create distrust between buyers and sellers in all lines of business. If the purchaser is getting an article at a low price he fears it may not be good, and if he be paying a fair price, he thinks he may be getting charged like Lord Young's poor man with his little vial. This sort of thing is not confined to drugs, but is felt in all retail trades. A correspondent from the West Highlands reports that even there persons getting prescriptions dispensed boldly insinuate that the druggist is a rascal.

REPORTING.—The discussion in the Council last week in regard to reporting the meetings of the executive of the North British Branch has provoked some amusement. It does not appear quite plain that certain councillors do not regard this subordinate body as a rival. To an ordinary mind the resolution moved by an associate at the general meeting last month contains a very simple and reasonable suggestion. The executive of the North British Branch occupies a position peculiar to itself. It certainly is a committee, but it is elected after the manner of a council—that is, by the direct votes of the members and associates. In this way it differs from any of the other committees, which report only to the Council. These are formed by the Council

from its own members. The executive has a constituency which not unnaturally has the feeling that it would like to know what is being done. It can get this information most conveniently and expeditiously by means of a report in the trade journals. The admission of reporters, it is understood, was never contemplated. All that would be necessary would be a *précis* of the meetings "communicated" by the assistant secretary. The present chairman of the executive is eminently a "safe" man, and may be trusted not to act rashly or unconstitutionally, even were there revolutionary minds in the executive; and it does not appear that there has been any evidence of these as yet.

HAWICK.

THIS border town has long enjoyed immunity from "cutting," but is now brought into line, the chemists having agreed to reduce the price of all patent medicines.

Legal Reports.

COST PRICE AND SELLING PRICE.

IN the Court of Appeal on July 29 the presiding judges gave their decision in the case of Max Landau, *ex parte* Brown & Wingrove, which was an appeal by Messrs. Brown & Wingrove from an order of Mr. Registrar Hazlitt. The appellants were merchants in London. The bankrupt, who also carried on business in London, was engaged in transactions in magenta dyes which he imported from Germany. The appellants agreed with him to make advances to him on deposit of the dyes up to 60 per cent. of their invoiced value. The goods invoiced from Germany were priced at 1s. 6d. per lb. In the invoices as submitted to Brown & Wingrove the goods were priced at 3s. 6d. per lb. The appellants contended that this was such fraudulent conduct on the part of the bankrupt that the Registrar was bound to refuse his discharge under section 28 of the Bankruptcy Act, 1883. The bankrupt contended that 3s. 6d. per lb. was the price which the goods would realise on sale. The Registrar granted the discharge, but suspended it on other grounds for twelve months.

The Court dismissed the appeal.

The Master of the Rolls said that in order to make out fraud it must be shown that the bankrupt had made a statement which was false and which he knew to be false at the time it was made. The Court would not act on anything less than an almost absolute certainty in finding fraud where the question had been investigated by a Court below and the bankrupt had been acquitted.

Lord Justice Lindley thought it quite possible that the appellants had been misled by the transaction, but the bankrupt could not be charged with any fraud.

Lord Justice Lopes concurred.

APPRENTICES' INDENTURES.—PHILLIPS *v.* CULLWICK.

THIS action was tried by Mr. Justice Cave at the Hampshire Assizes, held at the Castle, Winchester, on Tuesday, August 2.

The action was that of James Phillips (on behalf of Charles John Phillips, a minor) *v.* G. H. J. Cullwick, Mr. Temple-Cooke appearing for plaintiff and Mr. Bullen for defendant, in regard to an indenture of apprenticeship, dated March 5, 1884. Plaintiff apprenticed his son to defendant, a chemist of Southampton, for four years, paying a premium of 30l.; and he complained that instead of teaching him his trade he employed him as an errand boy. Plaintiff's son alleged that his master kept no errand boy, but employed him in cleaning and dusting and going errands, instead of instructing him in the business. Plaintiff, a licensed victualler, of Totton, gave evidence of his son's slow progress in acquiring a knowledge of the business, adding he might be able to make up prescriptions if the things were put to his hand, but if anyone had the stomach-ache and wanted something for it he would not know what to prescribe. Mr. Bullen: But is it your experience that people go to boys of eighteen when they have that complaint? Witness: No; but he ought to know how to make up things. Mr. Henry Johns, a chemist, residing at

Southampton, was called by plaintiff to define the practice in regard to apprentices. Defendant, whose place of business is 112 High Street, Southampton, stated his trade was a small and chiefly a counter one; he sent out a few prescriptions, and employed the lad on the errands more for his own pleasure. He had done his best to assist him in acquiring a knowledge of the business, but he was inattentive, and he had had to complain of his reading penny story-books in business hours, as well as at night in bed. John William Salt, a chemist, of Aston, Birmingham, in whose employ defendant formerly was, gave evidence in support of his case. His Lordship eventually characterised the action as an ill-advised one, plaintiff really having no cause of complaint, and gave judgment for defendant, with costs, the indentures being cancelled by consent of both parties.

KURTZ & Co. *v.* SPENCE & SONS.

IN the Court of Appeal, on Saturday, judgment was delivered in the second appeal, argued on Wednesday, from the decision of Mr. Justice Kekewich, who refused to give the plaintiffs leave to amend their claim in the action brought by them raising the question of the validity of the defendants' patent. The plaintiffs are chemical manufacturers of St. Helens, and the defendants are also chemical manufacturers at Manchester.

Lord Justice Cotton said this was an application by way of appeal from Mr. Justice Kekewich, who refused to give the plaintiffs liberty to introduce an amendment into their claim, enabling them to contest the validity of the patent claimed by the defendants. The application was made under the section of the Patent Acts enabling anyone who was threatened with proceedings if he uses a certain invention to proceed by action to restrain the user of such patent; but then, in order to establish his claim, the plaintiff must show that what he was doing was not an infringement of the rights of the defendant. On August 12, 1886, Mr. Justice Chitty struck out the words introduced by the plaintiffs questioning the validity of the defendants' patent, and in consequence of an expression of opinion by the Court of Appeal a fortnight ago, in the case of *Challender v. Royle*, the plaintiffs moved, before Mr. Justice Kekewich (into whose list the action had been transferred), for liberty to amend the statement of claim by introducing, not the words which Mr. Justice Chitty had struck out, but words confining the plaintiffs' objections to certain specific matters. Mr. Justice Kekewich refused the application. Without in any way departing from the opinion expressed in the first appeal, decided against the plaintiffs on Wednesday, his Lordship said he had come to the conclusion, and Lord Justice Bowen concurred with him, that in this case the amendment ought to be allowed in order to enable the Court to try the real point at issue, and further, that in this case there was nothing to prejudice the defendants if they had the costs incurred given to them, and had the right of beginning and replying, as they would have had if they had brought an action of infringement of their patent.

Lord Justice Bowen concurred.

Lord Justice Fry dissented, on the ground that the Court was too indulgent after the plaintiffs' long delay in appealing and there being no new matter before the Court.

THE MINERAL-WATER ASSOCIATION'S LAWS.

THE action of the Mineral-water Bottle Exchange and Trade Protection Society (Limited) *v.* Booth & Co. came on Tuesday (August 9) before the Court of Appeal, constituted by Lords Justices Cotton, Bowen, and Fry. The appeal was by the plaintiff company against Mr. Justice Chitty's refusal to restrain the defendants from employing a traveller who had formerly been in the employ of a member of the plaintiff society. Amongst the rules of the society was one that no member should, until after the period of two years, employ any traveller, carman, or outdoor employé who had left the service of another member without the consent in writing of his late employer. The number of members of the society was limited to 500, and the existing number was 179, including mineral-water vendors with places of business in various parts of the United Kingdom, and also, in one instance, in New South Wales. A carman who had been in the employ of a member obtained employment with Messrs.

Booth & Co. without the written permit required by the rules of the society, whereupon the plaintiffs moved for an *interim* injunction, which Mr. Justice Chitty refused on the ground that the rule in question was an unreasonable restraint on trade and therefore void, and also that the society was a trades-union within the Trades Union Acts, 1871 and 1876, and that being so the rule in question was not enforceable. Hence the appeal, which was treated as the trial of the action. Without calling on counsel for the respondents,

Lord Justice Cotton said it was clear that the rule could not be enforced, and that the judgment of the Court below must be upheld.

Lord Justices Bowen and Fry concurred, and

The appeal was dismissed, with costs.

THE HOP-BITTERS COMPANY'S ACTIONS.

HOP-BITTERS COMPANY v. FRIPP.—On Wednesday Mr. Aston, Q.C., moved, before Mr. Justice Stirling, for a perpetual injunction against the defendant. The learned counsel stated that he made the application on the affidavit of the defendant's solicitors setting out a letter from the defendant in these terms, "I consent to a perpetual injunction in the terms of the notice of motion." He therefore asked for a perpetual injunction against the defendant to restrain him from selling his goods as those of the plaintiffs.

His Lordship made the order.

HOP BITTERS COMPANY v. WILLIAMS.—Mr. Aston, Q.C., then moved for an *interim* injunction in the terms of the notice of motion—the motion was not read.

Counsel for the defendant consented to an *interim* order being made, the plaintiff giving the usual undertaking as to damages.

His Lordship made the order, and directed that the costs of the motion be the costs in the action.

HUMPHRIES & CO. v. TAYLOR'S DRUG COMPANY.

MR. WILLIAM PEARSON, Q.C., moved on Wednesday, before Mr. Justice Stirling, to restrain Mr. W. B. Mason (trading at Bradford, Leeds, and elsewhere as Taylor's Drug Company) from manufacturing and selling herb beer under the name of "Herbaline," the plaintiff, Mr. Humphries (trading as Humphries & Co., at Low Moor, near Bradford), having in January 1887 registered the word "Herbaline" as a trade-mark for herb beer—a preparation which he discovered and commenced selling in 1885. The defendant afterwards applied to register "Herbaline" in Class 44, but the plaintiff opposed, and the application was withdrawn. The defendant had now applied to register "Herbaline" in Class 42.

Mr. Graham Hastings, Q.C., for the defendant, submitted that the court would not interfere in this case on motion. The defendant had been cross-examined, and he stated that he had sold herbaline since June 1885. He might succeed in registering the word in Class 42.

Mr. Pearson said the defendant might drop his application.

Mr. Graham Hastings said an appointment before the registrar had already been obtained.

His Lordship decided that this was not a case for the interference of the court on motion. The only order which he could make was that the motion should stand over until the time of the action, or until the defendant's application to register herbaline in Class 42 had been disposed of, the defendant giving an undertaking to prosecute his application with due diligence.

A NEW inhaler has been devised by F. Stormer, an engineer of Christiania. By means of a simple spray-producer the water holding the material in solution is driven into a wide tube through which a current of hot air passes. By this means all the watery constituents of the medicament are got rid of, and the material itself, finely divided, reaches deep into the air passages. Experiments on rabbits showed that even when inhalation took place through the nostrils inhaled nitrate of silver reached the smallest bronchi. Inhalation by its means had given excellent results, especially in cases of chronic bronchitis.

Personalities.

MR. HERMANN FRENCH has succeeded to the chemist's business at 148 High Street, Chatham, for many years carried on by his father, the late Mr. Gabriel French.

MR. MEREDITH, of High Street, Brecon, has purchased the business of the late Mr. Hall, in the same street, which he intends carrying on under the style of Hall & Co.'s Drug Stores, Brecon.

MESSRS. ANDRÉ & LIEUTIER have commenced business at Rue Pavillon, 9, Marseilles, as wholesale druggists. The deed of partnership is for fifteen years, the capital of the firm being 300,000 francs.

PROBATE to the will of the late Mr. Herbert Rocke, of the firm of Rocke, Tomsitt & Co., was granted, in Melbourne, on June 9. His estate was valued at 49,341/. He leaves the whole of his property to his wife and children.

MR. GASCOIGNE, of 18 High Street, Kidderminster, has sold his old-established business to Mr. Griffin, of Birmingham, through Mr. Brett, of Leicester, who also valued for the vendor. Mr. T. Tomlinson, of Manchester, valued for the buyer.

IT is reported that Professor Bernhusen, the well-known German chemist, will resign his professorship at the University of Heidelberg, and accept the post of director of the scientific chemical department of the chief laboratory of the Badische Anilin and Soda Fabrik.

DR. DE VRIJ, C.S.I., of the Hague, is in London just now, and favoured us with a call on Wednesday. The eminent quinologist, who is now close on completing his seventy-fifth year, is in the best of health. He had with him a sample of light sulphate of quinine, manufactured by Böhringer & Sons, of Mannheim, who alone, says the doctor, have discovered the art of manufacturing the article in its light form absolutely pure. Dr. de Vrij intends to remain in London throughout next week.

NEW COMPANIES.

SCOTCH AND IRISH OXYGEN COMPANY (LIMITED).—Registered capital, 200,000/., in shares of 5/., each. Object, to enter into and carry into effect an agreement (not filed at Somerset House) made between Robert Raynsford Jackson, of the one part, and the company of the other part, for the grant of licences to use the patent rights and inventions therein mentioned.

THE ECLIPSE ELECTRIC BATTERY COMPANY (LIMITED).—The prospectus is issued of the above company, which has been registered with a capital of 100,000/., with the object of purchasing the patents of Messrs. H. J. Harris and J. J. Walsh in certain voltaic batteries, which, it is said, can be supplied at a good profit, with lamp and all necessary appliances, for 2/., 10s., and at a cost of 2s. per charge will supply a good light for twenty-four hours. The office of the company is at The White House, Telegraph Street, E.C.

GUY'S TONIC COMPANY (LIMITED).—Registered capital, 65,000/., in shares of 2/., each. Object, to acquire certain patent medicines and preparations known respectively as Guy's Tonic and Guy's Fruit Pills, and for this purpose to carry out an agreement made July 20, 1887, between Sydney Smith, of 6 Sloane Square, in the county of Middlesex, patent medicine proprietor, of the one part, and William Turner, of 19 Holcroft Road, South Hackney, accountant (as trustee of the company), of the other part. The purchase consideration is 20,000/. The first subscribers are Samuel Fairtlough (major, late 22nd Regiment), 9 Alexandra Road, Norwood; W. J. Raffety, 9 Addison Crescent, Kelsington; W. Turner, jun., 19 Holcroft Road, South Hackney; J. F. Rowe, Knight's Hill Lodge, West Norwood; E. H. T. F. Small, 22 South Side, Clapham Common, S.W.; Sydney Smith, 6 Sloane Square; John Hughes, 3 West Street, Finsbury Circus. Messrs. Hughes, Fairtlough, Smith, and Raffety are to be the first directors.

Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland.

THE monthly meeting of the Council was held on Wednesday, August 3, at the Society's rooms, No. 11 Harcourt Street, Dublin, at three o'clock, the President, Mr. William N. Allen, in the chair.

The other members of the Council present were the Vice-President (Mr. Draper), Mr. J. M. Brunner, M.A., Dr. Collins, Dr. Montgomery, Professor Tichborne, Mr. Charles Evans, Mr. Beggs, Mr. Grindley, Sir George Owen, Mr. Simpson, Mr. Hayes, and Mr. Wells.

Mr. CHARLES EVANS returned thanks to the Council for having elected him a member.

THE COUNCIL REPORTS.

The PRESIDENT said that, before they proceeded with the business mentioned on the agenda paper, he wished to make a few remarks relative to one of the reports of the proceedings of the last meeting of the Council which had appeared. The manuscripts of that report furnished by their reporter had been looked over in the usual way by himself (President), and also by the Vice-President, so as to prevent names connected with prosecutions from appearing. These names were all carefully erased. Nevertheless, in the *British and Colonial Druggist* the report appeared giving one of the erased names. He wrote to the editor of that journal about it, and in reply received the following letter:—

SIR,—In reply to your inquiry of the 28th instant (July) your reporter omitted the name, but as it is not our practice to publish incomplete reports, and as I knew who the complainant was, I repaired the omission.

In connection with the matter he (President) received a letter from the gentleman whose name was introduced into the report, containing the following postscript:—

I am surprised that my communication to the Council should be made known to the parties concerned from some quarter I know not, but they got the tip.

He (President) wished to take the opinion of the Council as to what course should be pursued in the matter.

Mr. BRUNNER: Mr. President, I think that in this case the editor of the paper in question has done what he ought not to have done. He published a report which was not the report forwarded to him from the official source of this Society. During the three years that I was President I always revised the reports, and frequently I merely drew my pen through whole pages of Mr. Macartney's manuscript, trusting to the honour of those to whom it went that they would not publish what was evidently intended not to be published. In this case, it appears from the letter of this gentleman that he inserted in the report which was forwarded to him matter which he had no right to insert. I beg to move that in consequence no further reports of our proceedings be sent to that particular journal.

Mr. GRINDLEY: I second that motion.

Professor TICHBORNE: I think it is a serious thing to do, there being no notice of the proposal on the paper.

The PRESIDENT said the matter did not affect their own official organs. They only supplied reports to two journals officially. The journal in question was one to which their reporter had been merely permitted to supply a report.

Professor TICHBORNE said he thought it a dangerous precedent to act in the matter without a notice on the paper. It would be better to acknowledge the letter and consider it afterwards.

The PRESIDENT: But are you going to supply reports to that journal in future?

Dr. MONTGOMERY: I would not.

The VICE-PRESIDENT: It is an ordinary matter of business. Is this gentleman to be trusted or not? The idea of postponing it for even a week where a man has been dishonourable enough to do this! I would not postpone it for a moment. We do not know what is the next thing he would do.

Dr. MONTGOMERY: Could we come at how he got the name?

The PRESIDENT: It was in the report.

Mr. BRUNNER: He admits that he got it from another source.

Mr. BRUNNER moved, "That in consequence of the unauthorised report of the proceedings of a meeting of the Council

which appeared in the *British and Colonial Druggist* of July 23, no further reports be sent to that paper."

Mr. GRINDLEY seconded the motion, which was put and carried *nem. con.*

THE INFLEXIBLE RULE.

A letter was received from a candidate who had failed to pass the last examination for the licence, stating that he was only short in a few marks through nervousness, and requesting that the Council would not oblige him to wait for six months, as that would necessitate the closing of an establishment which had been for many years carried on by his late father, and would also prevent him from becoming a candidate for an appointment now vacant.

Sir GEORGE OWENS said he knew the applicant to be a very deserving young gentleman, who had very creditably passed the "Assistants' Examination" in the Apothecaries Hall. The Council could not enter into his marks at the examination he failed to pass; but they might allow him to get an examination after a couple of months.

Dr. MONTGOMERY: Has the Council power to review the examination?

The PRESIDENT: We have no power.

Dr. MONTGOMERY: Then there is no use in discussing it.

Sir GEORGE OWENS: Have we not the power of letting him in to another examination?

The PRESIDENT: Not before six months.

DELEGATES TO THE CONFERENCE.

A letter was received from one of the secretaries of the forthcoming British Pharmaceutical Conference, asking that the names of the delegates from the Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland who would attend that conference should be furnished.

The names of Professor Tichborne, Mr. Simpson, Mr. Wells, Mr. Minchin, of Athy, Mr. Brunner, and Mr. Beggs were ordered to be sent.

MISCELLANEOUS.

A donation was received from the King and Queen's College of Physicians in Ireland of a copy of the register of that college for 1887.

On the motion of Mr. Wells, seconded by Mr. Charles Evans, thanks were voted for the donation.

On the motion of the President, seconded by Mr. Simpson, it was ordered that a press should be provided for the examiner in chemistry, for the purpose of storing re-agents.

On the motion of the President, seconded by the Vice-President, it was ordered that the amount of the policy of insurance on the furniture and fittings of the Society be increased by 100/.

ELECTING AN EXAMINER.

The next business was the election of an examiner in practical pharmacy. There were two candidates, Mr. John Evans, L.A.H., and Dr. Charles M. Knight, Master in Surgery and Obstetrics, Queen's University, &c.

Mr. BRUNNER moved that Mr. John Evans be appointed. They wanted a gentleman who was accustomed to the dispensing branch as his daily occupation.

The VICE-PRESIDENT said he had great pleasure in seconding the motion.

Mr. HAYES said he had great pleasure in supporting it. The brother of the present candidate had conducted examinations to the entire satisfaction of the Council.

Mr. SIMPSON said he also had great pleasure in supporting the motion. Mr. John Evans was a thoroughly practical man, and would, he had no doubt, act as an examiner as satisfactorily as his brother had done.

The motion was unanimously carried.

A report from the Law Committee was submitted and a resolution passed thereon.

On the motion of Mr. Hayes, seconded by Mr. Simpson, Mr. Charles Evans was added to the Law Committee.

The following gentlemen were elected members of the Society:—Mr. George Phillips, L.P.S.I., 67 Great Britain Street, Dublin; proposed by Mr. Simpson, and seconded by Professor Tichborne. Mr. Thomas Randolph Shannon, L.P.S.I., 17 Upper Merrion Street, Dublin; proposed by Professor Tichborne, and seconded by Mr. Simpson.

Some financial business having been disposed of the Council adjourned.

FRENCH PHARMACEUTICAL NEWS.

(From our Paris Correspondent.)

THE THREE PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETIES OF ALSACE-LORRAINE will hold their general meeting on September 2, at Guebwiller, Upper Alsace. It will be followed by a night ascension of the celebrated Guebwiller balloon, so that the rising of the sun may be watched from the top of the mountain.

ANOTHER AMERICAN VINE DISEASE.—M. Prilleux, in a note sent to the Academy of Sciences, has announced the apparition of *black rot* in several vineyards near Agen, in Southern France. The new disease, which is, like mildew, of American origin, is caused by a fungus known to scientists by the name of *Phoma uvicola*. The parasitic affection may be as dangerous as wine-growers pretend it to be, but it seems queer that whenever the time of vintage draws near the grape vine has a strange habit of becoming a prey to a dreadful complication of diseases. Professor Prilleux, who is a member of the Institut Agronomique, has been sent south to study this new disease.

THE NEW DIRECTION AT SÈVRES.—The Minister of Public Instruction has appointed M. Théodore Deck administrator, and M. Fleury-Husson administrator-adjunct, of the Sèvres porcelain manufactory. M. Deck is well known as a chemist and ceramist. He first tried his hand with those enamelled earthenware stoves so appreciated on some parts of the Continent. He rapidly became a master of his art, occupied himself with ceramics proper, and succeeded in imitating not only the old French enamels, but also the richest Persian models. He added besides many new tints to those already known, and his turquoise-blue and the unrivalled transparency and purity of his enamels made him justly celebrated. M. Fleury-Husson, better known by his *nom de plume* "Champfleury," is a *littérateur* and an artist of exquisite taste.

HOW TO SERVE VITRIOLERS.—The midwife Belligand, whose vitrioling feat, related in THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST at the time, ended in the death of one man, the maiming of another, and injuries to passers-by, has just been sentenced to hard labour for life. But another vitriol-throwing case which occurred this week had quite a different result, because the acid in the first instance had been procured from a paint-shop, and in the second from a pharmacy. A young man was celebrating his wedding at a restaurant of the Avenue St. Mandé, when a flower-girl entered the ball-room, and began distributing bouquets among the ladies. On coming to the bride and bridegroom she suddenly drew a phial from her basket and threw the contents in their faces. The bride fainted with great propriety, and every one cried; some rushed to the assistance of the wounded, while others detained the flower-girl, who declared she had thrown the vitriol to have revenge on the young man—the false deceiver! A doctor was at once called in, and found the supposed vitriol to be some harmless liquid. Finally the police appeared, and upon investigation the liquid turned out to have been procured from a neighbouring pharmacist, who, mistrusting the girl's intentions, had given her coloured water for vitriol. The *bouquetière*, very crestfallen, was kept in charge, and all felt relieved. The name of the wise pharmacist has not transpired, but the little episode shows in whose hands it is safest to leave the sale of corrosive liquids. As the law stands, had an accident occurred the pharmacist would have been surely prosecuted, and most probably punished, while a paint-dealer would not have been held responsible.

THE LECTURE PROGRAMME FOR 1887-88.—The following is the announcement of the Paris College of Pharmacy for the coming school-year:—

First Half-yearly Session.

Zoology.—Professor Milne-Edwards. Animal anatomy and physiology.

Natural History of Medicaments (Materia Medica).—Professor Planchon. Products obtained from the natural families, from the labiates to the ranunculaceæ.

Mineral Chemistry.—Professor Riche. Generalities on chemistry; metalloids.

Physics.—Professor Leroux. Acoustics; optics.

Galenical Pharmacy.—Professor Bourgoin. History of pharmacy; pharmaceutical operations; examination of the principal groups of medicaments, considered both in regard to their pharmaceutical form and their chemical composition.

Analytical Chemistry.—Lecturer, M. Villiers, *agrégé*. Qualitative analysis of mineral and organic substances; alimentary substances; physiological and pathological products of the economy.

Laboratory Practice.—Directors, MM. Leidié and Lextraît for chemistry, and Héral for micrography.

Second Half-yearly Session.

Organic Chemistry.—Professor Jungfleisch. Aldehyds; acids; organo-metallic compounds; alkalies; amides.

Hydrology and Mineralogy.—Professor Bouchardat. Hydrology and generalities on mineralogy.

Cryptogamic Botany.—Professor Marchand. Generalities; cryptogams containing chlorophyll.

Chemical Pharmacy.—Professor Prunier. Organic compounds used in pharmacy.

Toxicology.—Professor Moissan. Complete course of chemical toxicology.

General Botany.—Professor Guignard. Vegetable morphology and physiology.

The lectures will begin on November 3.

A PUBLIC MEETING OF ANTI-VIVISECTIONISTS.—There is in France an Anti-Vivisectionist Association, apparently the offshoot of the English society of the same name, or affiliated with it in some manner. The relationship could plainly be traced on the bills announcing the other day that a public meeting would be held, as the huge posters displayed to this effect were headed with the figure of a nondescript animal in a painful position, and bedaubed with red and blue streaks, while some English words were printed under the drawing. When a schoolboy, after tracing a horse, wants to make sure the animal will be recognised, he writes underneath, "This is a horse." The precaution is good where English is spoken. But the anti-vivisectionists had under one sketch, "A live rabbit," and under another, "A living dog"—English words that carried no meaning to a Parisian crowd, and served only to indicate the nationality of the artist. Nearly all knew that "dog" is English for "chien," but "living" remained a puzzle. Nevertheless, the lecture on August 7 was attended by an audience much too large for the size of the hall, lent by the Société d'Encouragement pour l'Industrie Nationale, at 42 Rue de Rennes. The announcement that Mme. Huot was to speak probably attracted a large section of the audience. The first part of the lecture consisted of the description of the tortures inflicted by vivisectionists on defenceless creatures, and was illustrated with calcium-light projections. The demonstration is probably well known to the English reader. So far perfect decorum prevailed, notwithstanding the oppressive heat of an afternoon in August, with 500 persons crowded into a hall intended for barely 300. In the second part Mme. Huot was to speak on all the cruelties practised by the medical profession in the hospitals and elsewhere, and then the fun began. She had the support of the French Society for the Protection of Animals, of a number of anti-vivisectionists—apparently English—and some shining lights of the Socialist party. But the majority of the audience had come to enjoy themselves and laugh, and this they did to their hearts' content. Interruption followed interruption, witty or would-be witty remarks shot from all parts of the hall at the same time, and the whole scene was one of good-natured but wild uproar and laughter from beginning to end. In favour of the lecturer it must be said she has a fine presence, a pleasant voice, good elocution, and unlimited pluck; besides she never lost her temper under very trying circumstances. But, to use a common saying, she made a mess of it. She alienated some of her supporters by proclaiming herself a freethinker and a Socialist; she offended many by wild attacks on respected scientific men, and neglected the strong side of the anti-vivisectionists' cause, whereby she might at least have won some sympathy. In one word, she is not sympathetic. The anti-vivisectionists have made a mistake to begin here under such auspices. By appealing to public feeling—and they have ample justification—they might win adherents. But scolding and vituperation are not the key to the popular heart.

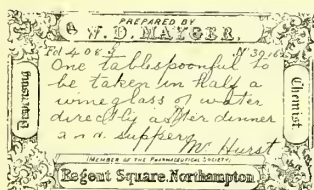
COMPETITION No. 11.

DISPENSING LABELS.

THE labels which are reproduced on the next page are but slightly smaller than the original. The sheet contains a few of the best specimens of handwriting which we have received, and the specimens have undergone no improvement in reproduction. This we cannot say of those which were printed last week. The label for J. Green, of Deal, is an original design by Mr. F. Smith, and is the best of several which have been sent in. The ointment label sent by Mr. A. J. Taylor shows a novel use for the type-writer. Regarding this Mr. Taylor says:—"This is written with the 'Universal Simplex Type-writer,' price 10s. 6d., and in my opinion has the following advantages:—Plainness, neatness, and cannot be known who wrote it, customers being apt to regard a mixture with distrust with directions written in a hand they have not been used to." On this point we shall have more to say later on. Meanwhile, we call attention more particularly to

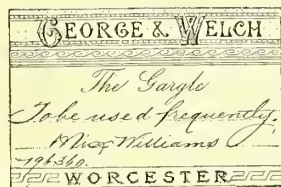
Mixture Labels.

Under this heading it will be convenient to include labels for syrups, drops, gargles, and other remedies of a non-toxic character which are not used externally. The old-fashioned mixture label is well represented by Messrs. Griffin & Co.'s specimen, also by Mr. Mayger's specimen. Labels of this



character are those which Prof. Remington refers to as engraved. They were very common a few generations back, but are now somewhat rare—the ornamentation being considered somewhat florid. In spite of this such labels have a handsome appearance when placed on a bottle—and a label should not be judged until it is in that position. Similar labels are sometimes printed in gold ink, and we have some tinted-paper specimens with the rules and the initial letters in gold, the rest being in black ink. These are by no means inviting. The embellishment is scarcely worth the expense; moreover, the colour of some mixtures will not harmonise with the labels, and thus the artistic effect of gold—always more suitable for toilet articles—becomes an eyesore. It is for this reason mainly that coloured inks are not popular.

The modern successor of the old-fashioned engraved label is the class represented by such as Messrs. George & Welch's.

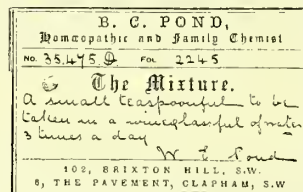


This is a very popular label, and we have received more varieties of it than of any other. It is a style which gives room for considerable artistic effect; but when three lines of lettering have been placed together along with the ornamentation the maximum of toleration in this direction is reached. We notice that in a number of specimens the printed matter takes up more space than is left blank. This is objectionable. At least one-half of the label, but preferably two-thirds, should be devoted to the directions, and it is evidently to meet this view that such labels as Mr. Brisley's on the next page are designed. This label would be improved if "The Mixture" were printed in smaller type, and the side wording ranged under it. In its present position the "shake" memo. is likely to be overlooked in most cases. We observe that Mr. R. Hayton Davis (Harrogate) prints immediately below the blank space, and over name and address, the following sentence:—

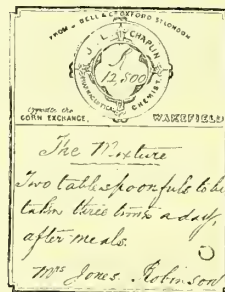
Medicines containing a sediment should be shaken before being taken.

It is now a recognised rule amongst dispensers that adventitious labels ("Shake the bottle," &c.) should be placed

above the ordinary label, not below; but even this is giving way to the better custom of having such directions printed on the dispensing blank, as in the case of Mr. Doran's label. The bead-wording of this label should be noticed; the idea evidently is to make a distinct statement as to who is responsible for dispensing the medicine. Mr. Miller's label puts this in another and better form. Although there are few medicines which are the worse for a shake, it is not necessary to have the shake direction on every label. It is better to have a series of the same, as well as different sizes. Some of our competitors show their weakness in this respect by sending us a dozen and more of the same size mixture label, without and with engraved directions for tablespoonfuls and parts to be taken blank times a day or every blank hours. The directions are in what is known as "Copperplate writing," so that the matter added at the dispensing counter has an appearance similar to that in Messrs. McGuffie & Co.'s label. Messrs. Allen & Hanburys avoid this strong contrast by having such ready-to-hand labels printed in facsimile of a dispenser's handwriting. In regard to economising space, the labels of A. J. Heald, Shirliff & Co., and Mr. Thomas, printed last week, and of Mr. Smith and J. & H. Matthews now given, are creditable examples. Mr. Heald's label has no margin and is always sent out rounded at the top. It looks very well on the bottle. Messrs. Shirliff's label is printed on pale-blue paper. The



following label has a better appearance in the original than in our reproduction, the original having a crimson margin. It is a type-printed label, so that it lacks the smoothness which lithographed labels have. On other specimens of Mr. Pond's labels there is a third line at the bottom; it is his New Zealand address—"Queen Street, Auckland." But the label has not come so far. Our Australian subscribers have the advantage of competitions instituted by their more immediate trade journal—our offshoot, *The Chemist and Druggist of Australasia*—otherwise we would not have been surprised if Australian pharmacists had shown their *confreres* at home what they do in the label department. Chemists, as a body, are loyal, if we may judge from their labels. They are loyal either to the throne or to the Pharmaceutical Society. The use of the royal arms nowadays is somewhat dangerous if tradesmen do not pay for the privilege; and it is within the rights of the Pharmaceutical Society to restrict the use of their coat-of-arms for the purposes of the Society. We know that many chemists would be glad to have a substitute for either of these. We commend loyalists to a group consisting of Britannia, Hibernia, and Scotia, sitting together peacefully, with a cherub to the right "stewing" for the Minor, and another on the left engaged in pharmaceutical operations. Several competitors use their town's arms (which is a reasonable expedient), while others wreath mortars and funnels into the semblance of an heraldic design. But the arrangement by Mr. J. L. Chaplin is on the lines of originality, and is convenient for the prescription number. The disposal of this number often gives some trouble. Mr. Evans's label shows a neat way of doing it, but "letter established" is not a good arrangement. The bottom corners are generally appropriated for this purpose. There is something to be said for the top corners. Last week's examples will show this, and there are others which we reserve for another article.

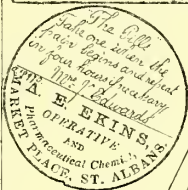




The Mixture
 One tablespoonful to be taken three times a day had been heretofore used.
Mrs. James Jones
 Date Jan. 3. 84.
 66, GOLDHAWK RD. SHEPHERDS BUSH.
SHEPHERD & CO.

RUSSELL.
 PHARMACEUTICAL CHEMIST.
 BY APPOINTMENT TO H.R.H. THE PRINCE & PRINCESS OF WALES AND THE ROYAL FAMILY WINDSOR.
 29, 34, 7.
 One tablespoonful to be taken three times a day in an equal quantity of water.
R. S. Jones Esq.

A MIXTURE SHOULD ALWAYS BE SHAKEN IF THERE BE THE SLIGHTEST DEPOSIT.
The Mixture.
 A single part to be taken every four hours.
 345 No. 130 Bolton
 GEORGE BRISLEY, (From Allen & Hurbury's.)
 STATION ROAD, BEXHILL-ON-SEA.



THE MEDICAL HALL,
 7 REFORM SQUARE,
 CAMPBELTOWN.
See drops night and morning.
W. Thompson
 No. 6273. Date 15.5.8.



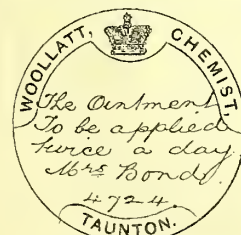
A. J. TAYLOR,
 Dispensing Chemist,
 THE OINTMENT TO BE APPLIED TO THE PART AFFECTED EVERY MORNING.
 H. DAVIES ESQ.
 GENSING STATION ROAD, ST. LEONARDS.

The Mixture
 One tablespoonful to be taken in a wineglass of water three times a day.
Mrs. Macdonald.
 No. 5013
J. GREEN
 DISPENSING CHEMIST
 High Street, DUBLIN.

Christina John Evans the Queen,
 BY SPECIAL APPOINTMENT AND TO H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES &c.
 49 Dawson Street, DUBLIN & 112 Up George's Street, KINGSTOWN.
THE SYRUP.
 A measured teaspoonful to be taken twice a day after meals.
W. Allan Esq.

The Mixture.
 Three measured tea-spoonfuls to be taken in a wineglass of cold water every four hours.
 Prepared at SMITHS. DISPENSING ESTABLISHMENT, Market Place, STROUD.
Mr Allan

The Syrup.
 One tea-spoonful to be taken in a wineglass of water, three times a day.
 10, 64, 7/64. James Oakley Esq.
J. & H. MATHEWS.
 Chemists.
 LOUETTS GARDENS, HYDE PARK.



I guarantee the contents of this bottle to be in strict agreement with the instructions of the Prescriber; each and every ingredient being of full strength and purity.
R. H. Brown

One tea-spoonful to be taken every four hours until the pain is relieved, afterwards, about every four hours.
Wm. J. Burton, Esq.
R. T. CLARKE,
 Family and Dispensing Chemist,
 ASSOCIATE OF THE PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY,
 131, MILTON ROAD, GRAVESEND,
 Opposite Holy Trinity Church.

Take two tea-spoonfuls (or 1/2 pint) three times a day.
W. Nelson Esq.
 24, CASTLE STREET, LIVERPOOL.

Foreign and Colonial.

THE SHARES OF THE BADISCHE ANILIN & SODA FABRIK rose 14 per cent. at a bound when it became known on the Frankfort Bourse that the House of Lords had decided in favour of the German firm in their suit against Messrs. Levinstein & Co.

THE DUTCH CHEMISTS' ASSISTANTS' EXAMINATIONS.—The periodical examinations for chemists' assistants have just terminated in Holland, and the result on this occasion has been slightly more creditable to the male element among the candidates than in previous examinations. Fifty-three candidates (28 women and 25 men) came up for examination, of which number 36, viz. 18 women and 18 men, were successful.

SOUTH AFRICAN CHEMISTS' ASSOCIATION.—The South African Pharmaceutical Association has held its annual meeting at King Williamstown. It was resolved to submit a communication on certain matters to the Government, and to invite the co-operation of the Capetown Pharmaceutical Society. The appointment of office-holders for the year then took place as follows:—President, Mr. Austen (Cradock); vice-president, Mr. W. K. Mager (Queenstown); secretary and treasurer, Mr. McKannet (East London); committee, Messrs. Des Vages, M.L.A. (Willowmore), Turpin (Middleburg), Cook (King Williamstown), Walsh (Port Elizabeth), Lumsden (King Williamstown), Bell (Grahamstown).

MANUFACTURE OF SPIRITS OF NITRE IN INDIA.—Brigade-Surgeon R. E. Pearse, the principal medical storekeeper, has been congratulated by Government on the successful result of his experiment of locally manufacturing *spiritus æther. nitrosi*—an experiment which has not hitherto been tried in Madras. The Director-General of Stores in the India Office at first suggested the desirability of its manufacture, seeing the very high charges paid for it in England. Dr. Pearse has manufactured it at a cost less than it could be procured from England, and of unexceptionable quality. This is but a pioneer effort, and we trust that other drugs might similarly be manufactured in Madras, with advantage to the State, to which end we would suggest that a manufacturing chemist be got out from England by Government and attached to the Store Depot.—*Bombay Gazette*.

TURKISH SCIENTIFIC EXPEDITION.—By command of the Sultan a scientific mission, consisting of three Turkish professors, viz. Dr. Ibrahim Bey, representing the medical faculty; Abd Bey, a botanist; and Abdul Hakim Efendi, a physiologist, has been despatched to Tripoli, in Northern Africa. The object of the mission is to travel throughout the country, in order to investigate the practice of medicine among the natives, especially the nomadic tribes, and to study the medicinal herbs and biting remedies which form so important and apparently effective a part of their national *matéria medica*. The investigations of the mission are to extend over a minimum of three years, and are not confined exclusively to Tripoli, but will include the region of Bengasi, part of Egypt, the Arabian provinces of Hedjaz and Yemen, and Mesopotamia. It is stated that the members of the mission during their journey will receive double salary and travelling expenses. If the scheme should be persevered in highly-interesting results may be looked for.

ADULTERATED GERMAN VERMILION IN FRANCE.—The *Journal de la Droguerie* states that a communication of a semi-official character has been issued to the French press recalling the fact that the use of noxious materials in the painting of toys is prohibited, but that vermilion, chlorate of potash, and white lead are admitted if applied with a fatty varnish. The note further states that recently it has been discovered that many toy manufacturers, acting in good faith, have been employing an impure material imported from Germany, and sold as vermilion, but which, upon analysis, was found to consist of a mixture of red lead and lead varnish, with a basis of eosine, and, therefore, of a highly noxious character. The adulterated vermilion, it is added, may be readily recognised by adding to the suspected sample a little alcohol, which is coloured red by eosine varnish but is not affected by pure vermilion. All dealers in colours are cautioned against the adulterated article.

AN EMBARRASSED AMERICAN DRUG FIRM.—A meeting of the creditors of the firm of Winthrop, Cunningham & Sons, drug importers, was held at Philadelphia on July 13. It was very brief, and no decisive action was taken. A member of the firm informed the creditors that a statement was being prepared, and that it would be presented soon. The creditors were disposed to be lenient, and they believed that the assignment was the best step that could have been taken under the circumstances, and that the firm was perfectly solvent. The senior member of the firm said that he had no doubt of their ability to pay their liabilities in full. He thought, too, that the firm would be enabled to continue the business, which was started fifty years ago, and carried on successfully up to this point. The attachment issued in New York was simply a non-resident suit, and had nothing whatever to do with the assignment. The firm did not owe the parties who brought the suit a dollar. They simply got out an attachment in order to protect a claim which they thought they had. The claim was for damages for breach of contract, but Cunningham & Sons claim that there was no breach of faith on their part. They purchased 20,000 oz. of quinine from the plaintiffs in January, when the market price was about 60c., and it was not ready for delivery until April, when the price had declined. They refused, and they think very properly, to take it.

FRENCH DUTIES ON COLONIAL PRODUCE.—In a recent issue of THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST reference was made to the proposed increase of duty on "foreign" spices and vanilla in France. The proposal emanates from the members for Réunion (all French colonies are represented in the Parliament sitting at Paris), who hope, by forcing the French consumers to employ the produce of their own colonies, to enable the latter to regain some of their fading prosperity. The two deputies responsible for the Bill point out that at present all produce, with the exception of sugar, imported into the mother country from French colonies is subject to the same import duties as, and has, therefore, to compete on equal terms with, that of countries outside the French dominions. The result of this system has been that, in coffee, cocoa, cloves, mace, nutmegs, cinnamon, and other important articles, French colonial planters have been elbowed out of the market by foreigners. Under the prevailing system the importation of French colonial coffee into France has fallen to about 1 per cent. of the total quantity imported, cocoa to 5 per cent., while cloves, cinnamon, nutmegs, and mace have ceased to be imported at all from the French colonies, the cultivation having been practically abandoned in those countries. In vanilla alone the French colonial planters have been able to maintain their ground against their rivals, about two-thirds of the imports of that article being from the colony of Réunion. Notwithstanding this, the promoters of the Bill propose to extend a helping hand to the vanilla-growers, as well as to their more unfortunate brethren, and suggest the establishment of the following differential scale of duties on colonial produce:—

	Imported directly from French Colonies	Imported directly from other Extra- European Countries	Imported from European Ports
	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
Coffee per cwt.	41 6	62 6	65 6
Cocoa "	27 6	41 6	49 6
Pepper and pimento	41 6	83 0	99 0
Cinnamon "	41 6	83 0	99 0
Nutmegs in shell	41 6	83 0	99 0
" without shell	62 6	125 0	145 0
Mace "	62 6	125 0	145 0
Cloves "	41 6	83 0	99 0
Vanilla per lb.	1 6	3 0	3 0½

This tariff is to apply to all the dominions of the French Republic, so as to prevent neighbouring colonists from sending their produce first to French colonial territory and from there to France.

A second scheme, brought forward by two other colonial deputies, suggests the simpler plan of allowing a reduction of 33 per cent. on all French colonial produce imported into France, if accompanied by a certificate of origin. The new proposals will be laid before Parliament after the recess.

DRUGS AND CHEMICALS FOR JAPAN.

A COMPREHENSIVE review of the foreign trade of Japan in 1886 has just been published. It is dated May 28, 1887, and is signed by Sir F. R. Plunkett, British Consul at Tokyo, who states that it has been prepared by Mr. Vice-Consul Longford. The report deals with all branches of trade, but contains several paragraphs relating to the importation of drugs and chemicals. These we shall quote verbatim, though it should be first stated that the total value of Japanese imports in 1886 was 5,577,817 $\frac{1}{2}$ l., and of Japanese exports 7,999,659 $\frac{1}{2}$ l., amounts largely in excess of any previous year.

The import trade was divided as follows :—

	£
Great Britain	2,599,753
China and Hong Kong	1,456,263
East Indies and Siam	729,615
United States and Canada	687,433
Germany	474,092
France	272,635

And the export trade as follows :—

	£
United States and Canada	3,326,103
France	1,605,009
China and Hong Kong	1,513,202
Great Britain	693,430
Germany	143,119
East Indies and Siam	107,531

Referring particularly to drugs and medicines the Consul writes as follows :—

A considerable proportion of the import was of Chinese and Indian production, but the European portion was principally divided between Great Britain and Germany, the respective imports from each being : From Great Britain, to a value of 102,203 $\frac{1}{2}$ l.; from Germany, to a value of 27,494 $\frac{1}{2}$ l. As compared with the figures for the previous year, the above amounts represent an increase of nearly 42,000 $\frac{1}{2}$ l. in the import of English drugs and medicines, and of over 10,000 $\frac{1}{2}$ l. in those from Germany.

As this is not already an important trade, but one which is likely to assume in the future very considerable dimensions, I have made careful inquiry into it. I was induced in some degree to do so by various paragraphs which I have seen from time to time quoted from German trade journals, in which free expression was given to hopes that in a very short time the whole trade would become a German monopoly, and that all British drugs would be completely ousted from this market.

It is satisfactory to find that little or no foundation is afforded for these hopes by the figures contained in the customs returns for 1886, two-thirds of the total increase in the trade for that year having been in British manufactures. The customs returns have, however, to be taken with some modifications, some of the drugs, which, owing to their having been imported by British merchants, are included under the heading of British manufactures, having been undoubtedly of German or French origin; while others again, entered as German manufactures, because imported by German merchants, were just as undoubtedly of British origin. As instances of these discrepancies, I may quote, salicylic acid, 5,096 lbs., value 1,782 $\frac{1}{2}$ l.; iodide of potassium, 10,658 lbs., value 5,572 $\frac{1}{2}$ l.; and quinine, 36,833 oz., value 5,927 $\frac{1}{2}$ l., returned as among the British imports, but a great proportion of which was certainly of German origin; and, on the other hand, 14,700 lbs. of bicarbonate of soda returned as German, but, like caustic soda and other heavy chemicals, almost certainly of British manufacture. Making full allowance, however, for these and some other similar slight modifications, it is more than probable that the aggregate values above given of the import from the two countries are very nearly correct, in which case British manufactures have as yet no reason to dread the realisation of German anticipations on this trade.

The following list contains the principal drugs, not of Oriental origin, enumerated in the customs returns, and the approximate quantities of each imported during the past two years :—

	Import in 1885	Import in 1885	Increase or decrease in 1886, as compared with 1885
	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.
Acid, carbolic	125,440	31,998	+ 153,442
„ salicylic	24,878	18,653	+ 4,225
„ tartaric	28,981	9,718	+ 19,263
Bleaching-powder	193,927	253,753	— 56,826
Cinchona	43,940	46,757	— 2,817
Cinchonine	2,596	2,014	+ 582
Glycerine	160,793	114,243	+ 46,550
Gum arabic	92,512	39,299	+ 52,583
Morphine	9,701	6,686	+ 3,015
Phosphorus amorphous	34,880	16,645	+ 18,235
Potash, bromide	33,664	41,009	— 6,345
„ iodide	15,838	6,050	+ 9,788
Quinine	62,663	95,525	— 32,862 oz.
Santonine	1,912	5,633	— 1,776
Soda, bicarbonate	1,768,127	1,131,708	+ 606,419
„ caustic	3,944,117	1,727,632	+ 1,916,425
„ crystal	1,012,396	1,003,624	+ 8,772
Worm-seeds	84,573	15,037	+ 69,536

The only important items in this list in which, according to the customs returns, the German exceeded the English import in 1886 were those of salicylic acid, cinchonine, santonine, and worm-seeds, but the modifications to which allusion has been made must be remembered.

Salicylic acid is made a specialty by large companies in Germany, holding patents for its manufacture, and the trade in it is entirely a German monopoly. The manufacture of santonine is in Russian hands, factories being established in proximity to Turkestan, where the flowers and seeds are produced, but German firms have control of its sale in Europe. Iodide of potassium is an article not subject to any patent protection, but controlled by a trade combination; Scotch, Peruvian, and Scandinavian makers of iodine having agreed among themselves to a general course of action in regard to price and production. So far as cost of raw material is concerned, manufacturers of iodide of potassium of all countries are, therefore, on an equality; but the Germans make a nicer looking crystal than English makers, and the Japanese, being particularly alive to appearance where, as in this case, not accompanied by inferior quality, give the preference to the German, and nearly all the trade in this article goes to Germany. German quinine is cheaper, but, though up to the necessary Japanese standard, it is doubtful if it is equal either in strength or purity to the English. Other drugs in which those of Germany have a preference to English make are cinchona, cinchonine, glycerine, and worm-seeds. Tartaric acid, glycerine, and quinine are to some extent obtained from France, and bromide of potassium from the United States. England, on the other hand, supplies carbolic acid, tartaric acid, bleaching-powder, phosphorus amorphous, bicarbonate of soda, caustic soda, crystal soda, and bromide of potassium—all of which are very important items in the whole trade.

In order to protect the people against the consequences of the sale by native dealers of inferior and spurious drugs, an analytical laboratory, carefully organised under foreign direction, was a few years ago established by the Government. Theoretically, this laboratory exercised no control whatsoever over foreigners, who were nominally left free to import any drugs they pleased, whether of good or bad quality. As far as drugs used for medicinal purposes are concerned, foreign importers are, however, practically entirely subject to it. No Japanese dealer is permitted to sell medicinal drugs that are not strictly in accordance with the vernacular Pharmacopoeia which the laboratory has issued; and they, in consequence, decline to purchase from foreign importers any that have not already passed through the laboratory, or that are unaccompanied by a certificate from a well-known chemist, or other satisfactory guarantee that they meet all the necessary requirements.

The tests used by the laboratory generally admit of a lower standard than is recognised by the English Pharmacopoeia; but they are at the same time more severe in some details. They are, without exception, observed with the very utmost strictness, no latitude whatsoever being allowed, and any drugs, however pure and good in themselves, that fail in the minutest particular to conform to them are at once rejected.

British manufacturers are generally guided only by the British Pharmacopœia, and it is with the utmost difficulty that they can be induced to alter their productions so as to bring them into conformity with Japanese requirements. The English drug trade is very vigorously pushed by one English firm—the only firm of any nationality established in Japan whose business is exclusively in this line. A great portion of the whole trade is in their hands. A member of this firm has informed me that they are, in their own interests, in many cases forced, for the reason above stated, to have recourse to German manufacturers. In one which was quoted to me, that of bismuth, which, though included under the heading of “Unenumerated Drugs” in the customs returns, is largely imported, he stated, “We are obliged to get all ours from Germany, as all our efforts to get from English sources an article which will satisfy the Japanese laboratory have failed, English makers considering the Japanese tests too severe, whereas we are able to get the article required from our German friends. Generally speaking, we find it more practical to do business with German makers. They are more alive to the fact of competition existing, and it is easier to do business direct with the manufacturers; while with the English it is often difficult to arrange transactions, owing to mere detail, and not price or quality.”

The import of drugs is only an item in the business of those German merchants in Japan who deal in them, and cannot, therefore, receive from them the same attention and thought that the English firm just referred to is able to give to it. On the other hand, Japanese medical practitioners have been almost entirely educated by German professors, and, actuated by the spirit to which allusion has been made in another part of this report, no doubt, therefore, wherever possible, give a preference to German pharmaceutical preparations.

It is not, however, from an increase of the import of drugs of the latter class that an extension of this trade is to be expected in the future. The general adoption throughout the country of the European in preference to the old Chinese system of medicine, and the great increase that is yearly taking place in the number of skilled native practitioners trained under foreign professors, no doubt is creating a demand for European medicines; but there is no branch of Western science in which the Japanese have attained greater proficiency than that of chemistry, and they can already, and are yearly becoming more and more able to make themselves all extracts, tinctures, and other preparations prescribed by the Pharmacopœia. This trade will, therefore, always be a restricted one, even if it does not in time come to an end altogether, or if, as is not impossible, the Japanese do not become exporters rather than importers. But in all heavy chemicals, alkalies and such as are required in manufacturing industries, the import is not only yearly increasing, but it promises to continue a progressive one, and to grow ultimately to very large dimensions. It is this class of goods which really interests British manufacturers most, and in it they need fear no competition to any serious extent, if they will only adapt themselves to the requirements of the Japanese market, rather than expect the latter to adapt itself to them.

DEATHS.

[Notices of Marriages and Deaths are inserted free if sent with proper authentication.]

BICKELL.—On July 28, Mr. John Bickell, wholesale druggist, Ashton-under-Lyne. Aged 47 years.

FREELAND.—On August 6, at 9 West Mayfield, Edinburgh, Margaret Black, relict of James Freeland, chemist, Bathgate. Aged 83.

RAE.—On July 16, at Philadelphia, U.S., Alexander Seaton Rae, chemist and druggist. Deceased was formerly a well-known chemist and druggist of Ely. He was afterwards appointed postmaster of Burwell, at which village he carried on his profession. Five years ago he emigrated to America, and established himself in Philadelphia, where, after a short illness, he died at the age of 50.

WRIGHT.—On Aug. 9, at 66 Oakfield Road, Anerley, S.E., Eliza, the beloved wife of G. H. Wright, formerly of 7 Poultry, E.C. Aged 69.

Trade Notes.

A CORRESPONDENT who has been touring in Norway sends us some account of his trip. The only passage, however, which concerns us is the following:—“Soon after crossing the Arctic circle the boats arrive at the Lofoden Islands, where are found the highest peaks and the most interesting formation of rocks. The stations and towns along the coast are not very important, but on arriving at Brettesnoes we were astonished to find a large manufacturing industry established. Jensen's Cod Liver Oil and Fish Guano fabriks line one side of this pretty harbour and give employment to nearly 600 hands. The cod fishing commences during the dark months early in the year, and to get the livers fresh the company have a large floating factory to follow the fishing boats and collect the livers from them, extracting at once the oil, so as to get it sweet and palatable. This seems to be the largest industry in Norway. Mr. Wilson, the manager of Jensen's factory, is most courteous to all visitors to the works. He explained the resources of the country and the manners of its inhabitants, and astonished us by reading a telegram he had received asking him to purchase 130 whales. This wholesale method of selling whales by the ‘gross’ did not, however, frighten him, and it turned out that none of the leviathans in question exceeded 30 feet in length.”

Gazette.

PARTNERSHIPS DISSOLVED.

CLIFT & CROW, Lee Bridge, Lewisham, chemists and druggists.

LLOYD, A., & SONS, Upper Thames Street and Bush Lane, Cannon Street, City, and Mill Street, Dockhead, packing-case makers.

MELLIN & Co., Longton, chemists and mineral-water manufacturers, as far as regards J. P. Mellin.

PROCTOR, H. & T., Cathay, Bristol, manufacturing chemists, as far as regards C. W. Cope Proctor.

THE BANKRUPTCY ACT, 1883.

FIRST MEETING AND PUBLIC EXAMINATION.

JOHNSON, GEORGE, Godalming, chemist, grocer, and tobaccoconist. Aug. 16, Cannon Street Hotel; Aug. 18, Public Hall, Godalming.

ADJUDICATIONS.

AUBERT, WILLIAM, Maiden Lane, Strand, Baldwin Gardens, Gray's Inn Road, and Bedford Hill, Balham, printer and manager to a wholesale perfumer.

BAILEY, GEORGE, Thurloe Place, South Kensington, veterinary surgeon.

NOTICE OF DIVIDEND.

COLEMAN, JOSEPH PARSONS, Southington, Overton, Hampshire, veterinary surgeon, dairymen, and blacksmith. First and final div. of 8s. 6d., Aug. 15, Official Receiver's Offices, Southampton.

ORDERS MADE ON APPLICATIONS FOR DISCHARGE.

JUMEAX, BENJAMIN, Springfield, Ambleside, Westmoreland, surgeon and artist. Discharge suspended for one month.

KEITH, THOMAS, High Street and Glamis Road, Shadwell, bottle, crate, and packing-case manufacturer. Discharge suspended for twelve months.

LANDAU, MAX (trading as Landau & Co.), Mincing Lane, aniline dye manufacturer. Discharge suspended for twelve months.

CONSULS' REPORTS.

CHINA.

Rhubarb Exports. Tientsin exported 76 tons rhubarb, worth 1,489*l.* 5*s.*, in 1886, a considerable increase over 1885, when 63 tons, worth 1,248*l.* 5*s.*, were exported. From Hankow 1,084,296 lbs. rhubarb, value 36,859*l.*, were exported in 1886, against 1,059,048 lbs., worth 43,282*l.*, in 1885.

Musk Exports. From Hankow 3,389 lbs. musk, value 62,483*l.*, were exported in 1886. In 1885 the figures were 3,642 lbs., value 62,721*l.*

Opium at Shanghai. There was, according to the customs reports, an increase of 714 piculs in the total import of opium in Shanghai in 1886, as compared with that of the previous year, due to the large import of Malwa and Persian.

The increased import of Malwa is ascribed to various causes, especially to the failure of native crops, and to the very low rates of freight. The competition between the steamer companies reduced the freight from Bombay to Shanghai, on a chest of opium, from 22 rupees to 3 rupees.

The increase in the import of Persian opium, from 99½ piculs in 1885 to 546, deserves attention. One chest of Mozambique opium was imported, and found a ready sale.

Native opium, although lightly taxed—when taxed at all—yet will probably be unable, at least for some time, to compete successfully with Indian opium, as the freight on the latter is so much lower than the carriage from the interior. When, however, the cultivation of the poppy becomes more widely spread in districts near Shanghai, the trade in foreign opium is certain to suffer; and, so far as can be seen, the native opium-grower has now nothing to fear from popular prejudice or official interference.

Shanghai Trade. The exports of the port of Shanghai during the last two years include the following items:—

	1883.		1885.	
	Piculs	Value £	Piculs	Value £
China root ..	13,324	29,980	16,004	39,314
Cuttlefish ..	34,132	76,797	24,610	54,912
Galls ..	27,417	68,543	29,289	73,040
Medicines ..	151,333	£89,560	195,831	292,170
Musk ..	—	77,036	—	52,441
Rhubarb ..	8,507	85,075	8,943	93,910
Safflower ..	1,135	16,093	1,433	21,853
Varnish ..	3,120	42,896	3,013	17,010
Vermilion ..	1,431	17,895	1,620	25,523
Wax (vegetable) ..	9,922	99,222	10,933	129,153
Wood oil ..	41,347	51,654	45,925	73,779

While the imports comprise:—

	1886.		1885.	
	Piculs	Value £	Piculs	Value £
Dyes and colours ..	—	140,054	—	148,369
Isinglass ..	22,149	110,775	—	47,741
Oil, kerosine ..	—	536,278	9,326	420,303
Opium, Indian ..	41,493	3,815,206	41,394	4,101,979
" Persian ..	546	43,407	99	9,507
Pepper ..	20,009	75,035	46,460	110,585
Sandalwood ..	68,395	136,789	71,397	153,683
Sapanwood ..	61,403	30,702	60,659	32,801
Soap ..	—	27,559	—	28,975

FRANCE.

British Goods at Nice. The principal object of local industry is the necessity of supplying the wants of foreign visitors and residents; and, as thousands of British visit the sea-coast towns of this district (Nice, Cannes, Mentone, Antibes, and Beaulieu), and also in less number the inland summer resorts of the Vesubie, British goods in large quantities are needed for their consumption and use.

They are imported almost exclusively by rail from Marseilles, or Paris depôts, and therefore at small profit for the British manufacturer, and at heavy cost to the consumer, owing to the fact that such goods pass through too many hands.

Among articles of British manufacture for which there is a market are sanitary appliances, patent medicines, and sanitary paper, an article in great demand, sold at the exorbitant price of 2*s.* or 2*s.* 4*d.* the packet of 1,000 sheets.

Essential Oils. The manufacture of perfumery and essential oils for exportation is on the increase. Large quantities are sent by rail to Marseilles, to be shipped thence to all parts, or to Genoa also by rail. The manufacture of essential oils is centred in Grasse, where an English firm has long been established.

The growth of orange-flower, roses, jasmin, and tuberoses for perfumery is also steadily increasing in this department, and most favourable results have been obtained during the year.

Prices. The Nice market prices average per lb.:—Essence of oranges, 7*l.* 4*s.* to 9*l.*; essence of lavender, 4*s.* 10*d.*; of rosemary, 2*s.*; African geranium, 1*l.*; local geranium, 1*l.* 16*s.* 4*d.*; mint, rectified, 1*l.* 7*s.* 2*d.*; mint, not rectified, 1*l.* 2*s.*; red thyme, 3*s.* 7*d.*; white thyme, 4*s.* 4*d.*; myrtle, 8*s.* 8*d.*; marjoram, 5*s.* 5*d.*; sage, 6*s.* 2*d.*; bitter almonds, with acid, 12*s.* 9*d.*; without acid, 1*l.* 5*s.* 5*d.*; aniseed, 10*s.* 9*d.*; fennel-seed, bitter, 2*s.* 9*d.*; sweet, 7*s.* 2*d.* Orange-flower water, per pint, 4*d.*; rose-water, per pint, 6*d.*

MADAGASCAR.

Copal. The copal produced in the northern shores of Madagascar is of a quality inferior by over 10 per cent. to that of Zanzibar; as Zanzibar copal is found both in its fossil, and also in its recent gum state, and Madagascar copal only in its recent gum state. There is, however, a considerable trade in this article.

Orchilla. Orchilla is largely collected on the west coast of the island, for yielding the well-known valuable dye. St. Augustine's Bay is the chief emporium of this trade.

Indiarubber. There is abundance of indiarubber vines in all the forests; but owing to the rude method of collecting the sap, many are destroyed.

The vines could be cultivated with success, and it is much to be regretted that the Malagasy Government have not only protected this valuable plant, but have also not organised a system of re-planting in the forest.

The indiarubber is of good quality, and trade in this article is capable of much further development.

Spices. Cloves and cinnamon can also be cultivated with success, but as they are of very slow growth, their cultivation is discouraging to foreign planters, and the natives have not the means to plant extensively.

TURKEY.

Opium. The most important article of export from Constantinople, after mohair, is opium.

The total arrivals into Constantinople for 1884-85 were 1,710 cases; 1885-86, 1,890 cases; and 1886-87, 2,620 cases; thus showing a progressive increase, notwithstanding the low prices which have prevailed of late years.

Galls. The production of the empire for 1886 is estimated at about 13,000 sacks, almost the whole of which was exported to Europe; 8,200 sacks went to England, and the remainder to Marseilles and other continental ports.

The arrivals into Constantinople for 1884-85 were 1,440 cases; 1885-86, 1,670 cases; and 1886-87, 2,870 cases.

The prices have ranged about 12*l.* per cwt. free on board for an average white quality. In this article it is noticeable that, compared with former years, there is a large excess of export to Germany and the Continent, and a proportionate diminution to the United Kingdom.

Indigo Imports. This trade is exclusively with England, but arrivals for the Constantinople market have very seriously diminished of late years. In 1883-84 the consumption was estimated at about 240,000 kilos. In 1884-85 at 158,000 kilos. In 1885-86 at 162,000 kilos. The import for the year 1886 may be set down as 160,000 kilos. The cause for this falling-off is to be accounted for by the increased use of aniline dyes.

THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST.

HEAD OFFICE—

42 Cannon Street, LONDON, E.C.

BRANCH OFFICE—MELBOURNE, AUSTRALASIA.

REGISTERED **"SANITAS"** TRADE MARK.
THE BEST DISINFECTANT
 FLUID, OIL, POWDER, SOAPS,
 TOILET & VETERINARY PREPARATIONS

For Trade Lists, Terms, &c., apply to
THE SANITAS CO., Ltd., Bethnal Green, LONDON, E

Apollinaris

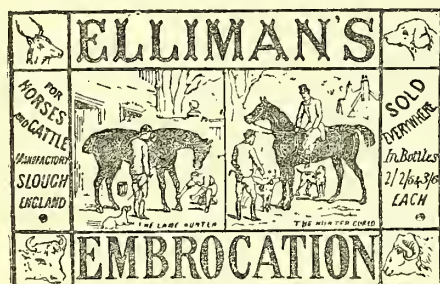
"THE QUEEN OF TABLE WATERS."
ICED APOLLINARIS WATER.

"There is a popular but entirely mistaken notion that ice is in its nature pure and innocuous; it is on the contrary very apt to be impure and noxious, and may easily contain the germs of fatal disease."

"Apollinaris Water, by its absolute purity, affords complete guarantee against the dangers of zymotic disease incidental to ordinary drinking-water. Its sparkling and refreshing character renders quite unnecessary the introduction of ice into it. THERE IS, OF COURSE, NO OBJECTION TO ICING APOLLINARIS, AS CHAMPAGNE IS ICED, BY THE EXTERNAL APPLICATION OF COLD UNTIL ITS TEMPERATURE IS BROUGHT DOWN IN HOT WEATHER TO A PLEASANT COOLNESS. So treated, it is a beverage as refreshing and agreeable as it is pure and wholesome"

SLACK & BROWNLOW'S
COMPRESSED CHARCOAL FILTERS.

See Advertisement, page 45.



SILICATED CARBON
PATENT MOVABLE BLOCK FILTERS.

SEE ADVERTISEMENT, PAGE 45.

WOODHALL SPA
BROMO IODINE MINERAL WATER.
The strongest known Iodine Water in the World.

This remarkable Spa has been purchased by a Syndicate of gentlemen who have determined to make more widely known the extraordinary curative powers of this spring, which contains more Iodine and Bromine than any spring in Europe—
"And, we may safely add, in any part of the World."—Dr. Cuffe, for many years late resident Physician at Woodhall Spa.

An analysis of the water having been made in November, 1886, by Professor Wanklyn, M.R.C.S., corresponding member of the Royal Bavarian Academy of Sciences, Professor of Chemistry, a very important discovery has been made, viz., the presence of Free or Elementary Iodine.

Dr. Wanklyn says—"So far as I am aware, this is the first instance in which free Iodine has been found in appreciable quantity in a natural water. For many years the Woodhall Spa has been celebrated as a valuable remedy in skin diseases. The fact that it is a solution of free Iodine is interesting in this connection, and well worthy of the attention of the medical profession."

The Woodhall Bromo Iodine Water is now being bottled at the Spring by the Sole Agents, BROMLEY & CO., Chemists, 233 High Street, Lincoln, 5 & 6 The Grove, Buxton, and at Woodhall. All communications to be addressed to them at the Spa, Woodhall, Horncliffe.

POWERFUL! HANDY!! SAFE!!!

CONDY'S POWDER

In Perforated Tins — Retail 1-lb. Tin, 1s.

Trade Price, 8s. per dozen, less usual discount. Through all Wholesale Houses.
CONDY & MITCHELL (Ld.), 67 & 68 Turnmill St., London, E.C.
 SOLE PROPRIETORS OF CONDY'S FLUID.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

THE PHARMACEUTICAL COUNCIL
 AND DRUG COMPANIES.

THE decision of the Pharmaceutical Council last week, or rather their indecision, in the matter of the prosecution of unqualified persons associated in companies and calling themselves "chemists and druggists" is rather puzzling than annoying. Are we really to understand that in a question of such moment to the trade, at a crisis when the whole future of British pharmacy is vitally affected, the Pharmaceutical Council, who alone have the power to institute or carry on proceedings in such litigation as has been commenced, are content to fold their hands and agree only to give "further consideration" to the subject? This policy is incomprehensible enough, but its absurdity is emphasised by the astonishing resolution, "which was carried unanimously," declaring that the Council "deems it to be its duty to protest" against this, that, or the other thing which was said by one of the Scotch judges. A protest of this sort is the veriest mockery, if it be intended therewith to wind up the action. We cannot think that the Pharmaceutical Council can seriously intend thus to abandon a contest of such importance and in which they have such excellent prospects.

But neither can we understand the necessity for a moment's hesitation or for a single hour's "further consideration." British pharmacy is in the position of an invaded country, the most valuable points of which are being rapidly secured by the foreigner. And the Pharmaceutical Council is the war office of the defenders. Is it conceivable that under such circumstances time is required to further consider whether any steps shall be taken to defend what remains and to recover what is lost? Most assuredly the invaders themselves are astonished at this conclusion if no one else is.

It is only correct in a limited and technical sense to say that there is no appeal under Scotch law to the House of Lords. The case actually decided is no doubt finally settled in the defendant's favour, and Mr. Schacht's resolution of censure, notwithstanding that it was carried unanimously, will not have the slightest effect on the records of the Court, nor probably on the delinquent judge, Lord Young, himself. But it is not the case that even under Scotch law the question cannot be appealed to the House of Lords. An action for interdict, equivalent to an English application for an injunction, can be raised against the Leith Dépôt, or against any other limited company calling itself "chemists and druggists," and the decision in such an action can be appealed against to the highest Court. It would not be wise, we think, to start a new action in Scotland, and it would certainly not be generous to make the second experiment on the Leith Dépôt. The practical and reasonable method of appealing is by raising the question in England. There are plenty of rich companies here ready to fight, and they would

probably, and very properly, unite in defence, if the Pharmaceutical Council were to intimate that they intended to test the law. We have no desire to check business enterprise or fair competition, and even in the ultimate interest of the companies themselves, we say the question ought to be finally and promptly settled. At present unqualified people are forming themselves into companies and conducting pharmaceutical businesses with a *bonâ-fide* belief that they are acting legally. It is hard on them that they should be allowed to go on investing their money on the strength of what may turn out to be a baseless faith. For pharmacists themselves the question is a vital one. The Pharmacy Act seems to insist upon the personal qualification of anyone calling himself a "chemist and druggist"; and on this principle alone is there any satisfactory future for British pharmacy as a profession. Companies of unqualified persons calling themselves "chemists and druggists" utterly destroy this characteristic of the business, and will necessarily confine pharmacy in the closest limits of simply buying and selling. In either case a living will be got out of drug-dealing; but if the companies are right, drug-dealing will be the only substitute in this country for scientific pharmacy.

THE DRUG TRADE IN JAPAN.

THE practice which has lately become so apparent among our consuls abroad to act the part of candid friends to the British manufacturer and exporter is no doubt on the whole a beneficial one. It is calculated to impress upon our traders the necessity of keeping abreast of the times and rising above the fatal habit of despising foreign competitors, merely because they were unfortunate enough to have been born outside the limits of this favoured isle. But there is a fashion in everything, even in consuls' reports, and it may well be doubted whether some of our excellent representatives in foreign parts are not going just a little too far in the direction of despondency when reviewing the progress of the industrial struggle between their countrymen and the representatives of other nations. The British vice-consul at Tokio, for instance, in his review of the foreign trade of Japan in 1886, devotes considerable space to a comparison of the business habits of English and German manufacturers, and his conclusions are, we should certainly think, too favourable to our Continental rivals. With his remarks on the shortcomings of British flannel manufacturers, nail-makers, and brewers we are not now concerned, but we must distinctly question an assertion made by him, apparently on his own authority, concerning the superiority of German over English iodide of potassium, and a statement that it is impossible to obtain English refined bismuth able to stand the test, if fairly applied, to which all drugs imported into Japan are submitted by the Government. The latter assertion was made to our vice-consul by the head of an English firm in Japan, the only house in that country dealing exclusively in drugs and chemicals, and in whose hands, it is said, a considerable proportion of the Japanese trade in those branches is concentrated. This gentleman further volunteered the opinion that, generally speaking, he found it more practical to do business with German than with English makers. It is easier, he maintained, to conclude direct business transactions with German than with English makers, and difficulty is frequently experienced to arrange transactions with the latter "owing to mere detail, and not price or quality." Yet this large Anglo-Japanese drug merchant, who describes British manufacturers as less practical than their German confrères, and complains about the inability of the former to compete in many important branches, has admitted, a few sentences previously, that as

compared with 1885 the imports of *British* drugs and chemicals increased by over 70 per cent., and those of *German* origin increased by less than 60 per cent.; and that as yet British manufacturers have no reason to dread the realisation of German anticipations of conquest of the Japanese drug and chemical markets.

With regard to the tests applied in the Japanese Government laboratories, we are informed that the chief analyst there received his training with a celebrated German firm of chemical manufacturers, and the consul's admission in another part of his report, that it is a "curious but natural trait in the Japanese character that all students—no matter in what branches—who have been educated abroad, or in Japan under foreign instructors, carry with them into active life very strong predilections in favour of the particular country in which they have resided, or to which their teachers in Japan belonged," throws, perhaps, some light upon the difficulty experienced by British chemical manufacturers to satisfy the requirements of the Government analyst. We also understand that most of the Japanese medical practitioners who are so fond of prescribing German preparations have been educated in the Fatherland, and while there had every facility extended to them for visiting the works of the very firms whose interests they now further so assiduously.

It is worthy of note that the writer of the report is strongly of opinion that the Japanese trade in articles of medicinal use is not capable of much further growth, but that, on the contrary, Japanese chemists will soon be able to fully meet the requirements of their own countrymen, and even to compete with Europeans in neutral markets. British exporters are therefore advised to turn their attention rather to the development of the trade in such chemicals as find employment in manufactures. Fostered by the powerful assistance of the Government, industrial undertakings are flourishing everywhere in Japan, and the quantity of drugs, chemicals, and dyestuffs required by these concerns is likely to assume very large proportions in the near future.

THE USE OF BROKERS.

IN the citric acid case reported last week, a juryman asked the defendant the very pertinent question, "Why didn't you go to the sellers direct?" Why, indeed? Here was somebody wanting five tons of citric acid, a quantity which we should suppose any maker would have been glad to supply at the lowest remunerative prices. The real purchaser left his order with a firm of dealers, the dealers employed a broker, and this broker went to another broker who also acts sometimes as a dealer, and finally this broker-dealer was to get the acid from one of the well-known firms of makers. Now the simplest of us must know that everybody in this interesting circle wanted to get a profit out of the transaction, though no doubt it could be shown by Mincing Lane arithmetic that the system is so perfectly arranged as to give the highest possible price to the maker and the lowest possible price to the consumer. In the transaction recorded there seems to have been in the opinion of the chief witnesses only the one irregularity that one of the links in the chain was a double one. The plaintiff in acting both as broker and dealer was evidently considered to be taking too much on himself. One little approach to an explanation of all the hocus pocus comes out in the evidence given by Mr. Magnus, the dealer who "bought the acid for a customer." This witness said that the plaintiff (Pickering) was a "bear" seller, and he (Magnus) did not want him (Pickering) to know that he (Magnus) was buying. So he (Magnus) sent the defendant (Wilson) to the plaintiff (Pickering). So these three middle parties (mind, there ought to have been four)

were just indulging in a little gambling. Mr. Magnus bet that citric acid would go dearer, Mr. Pickering bet that it would go lower. If it had remained during five months at the price at which it stood when the contract was made, each of these three gentlemen would have had a little picking out of the business. If it went dearer Mr. Magnus or his client or both would have won; if it fell (as it did) Mr. Pickering would pocket the difference. There is not the smallest reason why Mr. Magnus and Mr. Pickering should not bet on the future of citric acid as well as on the coming St. Leger if they wish to do so. But will anybody tell us that such intermediate performances are in any way necessary or beneficial to the legitimate trade in this or in any other chemical?

PHARMACY ACT IN THE ORANGE FREE STATE.

THE Orange Free State, a thriving Republic in Southern Africa, has added to its Statute Book an Act for regulating the admission and defining the status of pharmacists. The *Gouvernement Courant*, or official journal of the country, which is published in the Dutch language at Bloemfontein, the capital, contained in its issue of March 25 last the draft of the measure, which it was intended to lay before the Volksraad or Legislative Assembly in the present session of that body, which was opened on May 2 last. The Government Bill has since been passed without any modification whatever, and became operative immediately after its acceptance by the Volksraad. As might be expected, the system arranged is similar to that in force in Cape Colony.

Henceforth any person desirous of practising as a chemist, apothecary, or druggist within the territory of the Orange Free State will be required to pass an examination before a committee of three professional men, who will, if the candidate should be found to possess the requisite abilities, grant him a certificate to that effect, which must be confirmed by the State President. Candidates, before being admitted for examination, are required to have passed at least four years' apprenticeship with a registered doctor, apothecary, chemist, or druggist, and to have attained the age of twenty-one. A certified copy of their indentures of apprenticeship must be deposited with the Registrar of Deeds within a month after its signature. Pharmacists having qualified as apothecaries, chemists, or druggists in a country outside the Orange Free State, or having passed an examination as such at a foreign university or other acknowledged educational establishment, may be admitted to practise in the Orange Free State without re-examination upon presenting their diplomas to the Board of Examiners of that country; but the Board shall have power to demand a re-examination at its discretion. The originals or certified copies of the indentures or diplomas of foreign applicants must also be deposited with the Registrar of Deeds in the Orange Free State.

Medical practitioners are allowed to carry on business as chemists and druggists provided they either serve personally in their shop or employ as assistant a pharmacist duly qualified under the new Act.

The examination fee is 3*l.*, while the certificate of admission requires stamps to the amount of 4*l.* It would appear that besides these preliminary expenses a licence is required, but the wording of the Act on this point is not quite clear, nor is the cost of such a licence, if any, specified.

Persons already apprenticed to registered medical practitioners or to pharmacists at the time of the passing of the new law are exempt from the provision requiring a four year's apprenticeship prior to admission for examination.

The Act does not give any details concerning the pharmaceutical examination to be taken by the committee of three professional men, nor does it indicate by whom that committee will be appointed or to what particular profession its members shall belong. So far as foreign pharmacists are concerned, the evidence that they have obtained the necessary qualifications in their respective countries will probably in all cases be considered sufficient to allow them to practise in the Orange Free State. In that country, covering an area of about 60,000 square miles north-east of the Cape Colony, the Dutch-African element has a considerable preponderance. The Republic is in a prosperous condition, and its population increases rapidly. The South African disturbances of the last decade have affected it in a less degree than any of its neighbours, and the chief sources of political excitement at present agitating its inhabitants appear to be the questions of railway extension and of Customs alliance with the Transvaal.

Medicated Wines. Our attention has been again called to the General Order issued by the Commissioners of Inland Revenue to their officers in April last, and which was mentioned in this journal on May 7. The order was worded as follows:—

"GENERAL ORDER.

"Inland Revenue, Somerset House,
"London, April 20, 1887.

"Medicated Wines or Wine Cordials.

"Under the authority of the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury all medicated wines, which are really and principally wine with the addition of ingredients only for medical or flavouring purposes, are to be charged with duty as ordinary wine, and are to be sold under a wine, instead of a spirit, licence. Such medicated wines include 'Vino Vermouth.' In any case of doubt as to the correct designation a sample should be forwarded to the laboratory here."

We understand that, in consequence of this order, Excise officers in some parts of the country have called on chemists, and in some cases have stated that quinine wine (*e.g.*) can no longer be sold without a licence. This is not so. The law is in no respect altered, and quinine wine of proper B.P. strength may be sold by chemists as before. All that is urged is a little more vigilance on the part of Excise officers in respect of wines described as medicated, but really beverages. Manufacturers of any such wine would save themselves and the retailers considerable future trouble by ascertaining from the Inland Revenue authorities *direct* if their preparations may legally be sold by chemists not holding a wine licence. This was done some time since by Messrs. Coleman & Co., of Norwich, in reference to the sale of their "Liebig's Extract of Meat and Malt Wine with Quinine." And chemists not holding a wine licence should be cautious about introducing any medicated wine to their customers, unless the manufacturer can satisfy them that they may legally sell it, or unless they decide to take out a wine licence; for, having made the preparation known, they may shortly find themselves shut out from the sale, and see their customers supplied by the grocer who represents Gilbey & Co. in the locality.

Many chemists are under the impression that to procure a wine licence it is only necessary to ask for it at an Inland Revenue office and pay 50*s.* Such, however, is not the case. Application has to be made to a bench of magistrates, the name of the applicant posted on the church doors, and only upon the order of the magistrates can a licence be granted by the Excise authorities.

* * *

Apprentices. A case of considerable importance to the trade Indentures. was tried by Mr. Justice Cave at the Hampshire Assizes, held at Winchester, on the 2nd inst. A licensed victualler residing at Totton brought an action against Mr. G. H. J. Cullwick, chemist and druggist, of 112 High Street, Southampton, claiming 100*l.* damages for breach of contract. A son of the plaintiff was apprenticed under ordinary indentures to the defendant for a term of

four years, 30*l.* being paid as premium. Nine months before the expiration of the term the present action was commenced, it being alleged by plaintiff that the defendant had not taught the youth his trade, and that instead of being instructed in Latin and the art of prescribing, his time had been occupied in cleaning and dusting defendant's shop, and other work pertaining to the office of an errand boy. The defendant in his evidence said that he had paid great attention to the lad and endeavoured to teach him his business, but that he was inattentive to his duties, and continually reading cheap literature of the "penny dreadful" type, both at his work and after he had gone to bed. Mr. Henry Johns, chemist, of Southampton, and Mr. William Salt, chemist, of Birmingham, gave evidence as to the custom of the trade in reference to apprentices. After hearing the evidence and arguments of counsel, his Lordship said that plaintiff had no cause for complaint, and judgment would be entered for defendant with costs. The indentures were cancelled by consent of both parties. A short report of this case appears in our Legal Reports.

* *

Vitriol on the Poison Schedule. With regard to vitriol, which now seems to be the ordinary weapon of love both in France and in this country, says *Truth*, I know that there are difficulties in the way of legislation; for, after all, knives, and even forks, ropes, "bare bodkins," and, indeed, according to the distinguished authority of Dickens, muffins, may all be used for lethal purposes. Still, on the whole, I think it might be well to treat vitriol as a "poison," and place some restrictions on its sale. The ordinary world could get on very well with only a moderate amount of it. [Let it be understood that Mr. Labouchere is responsible for the foregoing, especially for the last sentence. Perhaps he does not know that vitriol is sulphuric acid, and is perhaps the most important adjunct to civilisation manufactured. Even the paper on which *Truth* is printed is manufactured with the aid of sulphuric acid.]

* *

Not Tempting. *Wit and Wisdom* is publishing a series of papers, entitled, "What shall we do with our boys?" In the number for this week is given the report of an "Interview with a chemist." The information published is both accurate and fair. After narrating the conditions of apprenticeship, assistantship, and proprietorship, and giving details concerning the examinations, the chemist concludes with the remark, "But I often say I'll never make any of my boys a chemist. The hours are very long, from 8 A.M. to 10 P.M., and in some districts till 11 P.M., and it is an incessant tie, to say nothing of the diminution of the profits. I think I could do better with my youngsters."

* *

The Advertising Dentist. The decision of the Court of Appeal in the case of the dentist who had been struck off the register puts the Medical Council into an absurd position, but will commend itself to the common-sense of the public. The Medical Council are required to place names on the medical or dental register when certain qualifications are acquired. They put Mr. Partridge's name on the dentists' register on the ground that he had obtained a qualification from the Royal College of Surgeons of Ireland. The college stipulated that if he advertised he was to lose his diploma. He did advertise, and he sacrificed his diploma. The Medical Council seem to have acted on the principle that when the diploma was gone the qualification was gone. It seems to us very satisfactory that the courts refuse to sanction any such absurd principle. The Medical Council can only cancel registration on proof of disgraceful professional conduct or felony. The colleges may think what they like, but the public at this end of the nineteenth century are not likely to regard any decent advertising as disgraceful. Nor is it reasonable to regard the applicant's conduct as breach of faith, and therefore disgraceful. He considered, no doubt, that advertising was better to him than mere permanent association with the college, and that he had a right to choose. A diploma is not a solemn deed and covenant like a marriage certificate, and it will have to be clearly settled that neither the colleges nor the Council are to have the power to establish as moral laws their somewhat antiquated notions of professional etiquette.

AT THE COUNTER.

WASTE NOT, WANT NOT.—"Please, sir, my ma bought some brown Diamond dye to-day to dye a pair of trousers; after she was done, as her hair used to be brown, she dyed it, but it has come out red, so she wants to see what will take the dye out."

RETIRED PARSON (from behind goggles begrimed with the filth of half a lifetime): "Sixpennyworth of quinine, please." Chemist: "Yes, sir; will you have a seat, please" (withdraws to weigh it). Retired Parson (one knee endangering the stability of the other at the idea of parting friends with the coin): "Don't be weighing the paper with it." Chemist (politely): "We don't charge for paper, sir." Retired Parson: "Humph." (Exit, snuffing the clouds.)

URCHIN: "Please for twapen'orth o' wee roon broon things ta birk the win aff my granny's stomach. (Pil. asafetid. comp. given.)

GOOD FOR "THE DIARY."—A young lady went into a store to purchase a diary, and had about concluded to secure one shown her, when she changed her mind and said: "I guess I'll take a purse for the diary." An old lady standing near, and who only partially heard the foregoing announcement, went over and said in a loud whisper: "Miss, don't you do it; take blackberry cordial."

DEVELOPMENT OF LANGUAGE.—Young servant girl: "A pen'orth of angelic to clean brass with." Chemist supplies oxalic acid, with a caution that it is poison.

"A 6 case of etui" was found to mean a French lip salve, the word "etui" holding a prominent place on the label.

CUSTOMER: "You sold me two bottles of stuff to make my hair grow." Chemist: "Yes, it is very strange it won't grow again; I can't understand it." Customer: "Look here, I don't mind drinking another bottle, but this must be the last."

DAUGHTER in cart at door, brought to have tooth drawn. Mother, to her unwilling: "Come down, Sarah, come down; you know I not wink my eye all night last night with you. I see I wink it to-night!"

JUVENILE CUSTOMER, glancing at packets of flower seeds: "Our seeds is grawed up, there's no need to sow 'em now." "Where?" said I. "At Mr. H.'s? (naming her employer, who had grumbled somewhat that the seeds did not "graw")." "No, not his; he've got nothin' only cinders to grow 'em in."

APPRENTICE: "Please, sir, a blind man wants to see you."

M. P. S. (Liverpool) (71/132) sends us the following order, received apparently from a chemical student:—

	s. d.
1 <i>l.</i> of zinc	0 1
1 <i>l.</i> caustic soda	0 1
1 <i>l.</i> muriate of ammonia	0 1
1 <i>l.</i> glass tubing	0 1
1 retort	0 4
1 <i>l.</i> sulphate of copper	0 1
1 <i>l.</i> red oxide of mercury	0 1
1 <i>l.</i> tincture of galls	0 1
1 <i>l.</i> sulphate of iron	0 1
	1 0

We confess we see nothing objectionable about the order. We should judge the youth who sent it is likely to be a good customer.

THE WORD "ADULT."—The Birmingham coroner last week (*THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST*, page 152) made some severe remarks on the use of the word "adult" on labels of medicines intended for people "not versed in foreign languages." It is not altogether a safe word for people more versed in foreign languages than in English, as the following anecdote will prove. A foreigner entered a Whitechapel pharmacy a short time since, in a very excited state, when the following conversation took place:—Foreigner: "I vant a dose of castor oil *at vonce*." Assistant: "Is it for an adult?" "No; it is vor an adulteress—my vife. She has taken something that does not agree vid her."

TRADE-MARKS APPLIED FOR.

THE *Trade Marks Journal* publishes the following notice:—"Any person who has good grounds for objection to the registration of any of the following marks may, within two months of the date of this journal, give notice in duplicate at the Patent Office, in the form 'J,' in the second schedule to the Trade Marks Rules, 1883, of opposition to such registration." The address of the Patent Office is Southampton Buildings, London, W.C.

From the "*Trade Marks Journal*," August 3, 1887.

"FINLAY"; for perfumed soap. By A. Finlay, 35 Ann Street, Belfast. 59,001.

"BORAX DRY SOAP," and a design; for perfumed soap. By J. Ascough, Birmingham. 61,024.

"RUSTOMJEE'S FAMOUS INDIAN CURRIE POWDER," other wording, and figure of a tiger; for currie powder. By J. Thwaites, 17 Chichester Street, Upper Westbourne Terrace, Harrow Road, W. 61,865.

"ELEPIZONE"; for a remedy for fits, &c.; and "PSYCHINE"; for a remedy for consumption, &c. By H. E. Thompson, jun., 5 Plumtree Court, Farringdon Street, E.C. 62,496-7.

"VIEW OF OLD MARKET HALL, LLANIDLOES," and the view; for drugs, chemicals, &c., of Class 3. By Jones & Son, chemists, Long Bridge Street, Llanidloes. 62,811.

"SAPOLIO"; for disinfecting and sanitary soaps, and for medicated soaps. By E. Morgans, Sons & Co., 31 Snow Hill, E.C. 62,899-900.

"MITRE," under figure of a mitre; for perfumery, &c. By Allen & Hauburys, Plough Court, Lombard Street, E.C. 63,433.

"THE HUNTER'S FRIEND," over figures of a man and two cats; for harness dressing, boot polish, &c. By G. Hutching, 24 Paternoster Square, E.C., and W. Heatley, Peckham. 63,781.

"S. S. W.," as monogram; for tooth-soaps and other dentifrices. By S. S. White, Dental Manufacturing Company, Philadelphia. 64,314.

From the "*Trade Marks Journal*," August 10, 1887.

Picture of a sturgeon, in an oval frame; for isinglass. By Gridley & Co., Bishopsgate Avenue, London. 62,011.

A star, with words "West Riding Mills, Selby," in centre; for anti-rheumatic mustard oil. By Moss, Rimmington & Co., mustard manufacturers, Selby. 62,324.

Wrappers with view of works, arms, and wording; for sanitary and medicated soaps. By Hodgson & Simpson, Wakefield. 62,366-7.

"OGALLALA"; for a patent medicine. By Alfred Lovesey, storekeeper, 18 Farrance Street, Limehouse, E. 62,517.

Name of firm; for soap, washing-powder, &c. Also the word "Chanticleer." By Henry Glover, Son & Co. (Limited), Bradford. 62,784-5, 63,074.

"CANADIAN HONEYSUCKLE," with name and address of maker, on label; for perfume. By Greenway & Son, 194 St. George Street, Montreal, and 84 Rochester Row, Westminster. 62,842.

"DORIN," in monogram enclosed in garter; for face paints and powders. By Maison Dorin (H. Morim & G. Pinand), 27 Rue Grenier, St. Lazare, Paris. 63,034.

DUNSTAN'S HARVEST DRINK"; for a non-alcoholic and non-aerated beverage. By John Dunstan, chemist and druggist, 19 High Street, Stamford. 63,325.

"VIKING"; for extracts and essences of meat and preserved soups and foods. By Kopf's Extract of Meat, &c., Company (Limited), 1 and 2 George Street, E.C. 63,522.

Open hand holding heart, on label of "Gaskin's Colonial Cocoa," with other words; for chocolate and cocoa. By Gaskin & Co., Billiter Square Building, E.C., and Kingston, Demerara. 63,585.

"BETONY PILLS," with drawing of *Betonica officinalis*; for pills "not being preparations of bark." By J. C. Parker, hairdresser, 8 Town End, Great Horton, Bradford. 63,726.

"ALTERICA," with other words, on label; for a medicinal preparation. By F. H. Williams, chemist, 38 Brook Street, Chester. 63,751.

"OWEN'S HINDOO FEMALE PILLS," and "Owen's Herbal Blood Scavenger"; for medicines. By J. W. Owen, medical herbalist, 102 George Street, Hyde, Manchester. 63,770-1.

Picture of Catley Abbey; for a mineral water. By The Catley Abbey Natural Seltzer Water Company, Sleaford. 63,812.

"MAIN'S ABSTERGENT HEAD LOTION"; for a toilet preparation. By Mary W. Main, 13 Hanway Street, Oxford Street, W. 63,835.

"CASCUALINE"; for a medicine. By Paterson's Chemical Manufacturing Company (Limited), 43 West Regent Street, Glasgow. 64,336.

"NEURONIC," with facsimile of signature; for a medicine. By W. J. Williams, estate agent, 68 Waddon New Road, Croydon. 64,581.

"CHEST TONIC," with facsimile of signature; for a medicine. By Henry Johnson, manufacturing chemist, 2 Queen Street, Barnsley. 65,261.

PRACTICAL NOTES.

By HANS M. WILDER.

DROPPER.—Quite a convenient way of dropping, so that the drops for each preparation will always be of equal size, is to pour one or two fluid drachms into an ounce graduate, and drop from this, previously pouring a few drops back in the shop bottle in order to moisten the lip of the graduate. By pouring always from the same bulk of liquid and from the same size of container (graduate) the drops must of necessity be of the same size; besides it is easier to drop from a graduate than from a bottle.

PASTE FOR PAPER ON TIN.—I think that the real secret of a paste suitable for that purpose lies in keeping it always in a semi-moist, sticky condition, so that the label remains quite pliable. It is only when the paste is thoroughly dry that the labels come off. Chloride of calcium or chloride of magnesium seems to be better suited than glycerine as an addition to paste for the purpose named.

EVAPORATING.—When a preparation has to be evaporated to perfect dryness or heated to expel all the water, it is customary to put it on the scales from time to time to see whether it continues to lose weight. Now, this is very inconvenient, partly for the trouble, and partly because it will be necessary to let it cool down before putting it on the scales. A better method is one of Wittstein, which is to keep the crucible or container over the source of heat, and from time to time to cover it with a cold piece of glass. As long as any moisture remains, the vapours will condense on the cold glass and can be seen; when the glass ceases to be "bedewed" all moisture has surely been driven off.

TOOTH POWDERS.—It is essential that the several ingredients used should be in a fine, impalpable state ("flour"). Attention is hereby called to an old-fashioned German way of obtaining a superfine powder. Tie a piece of fine bolting cloth, or, better still, of the finest muslin, in such a way round the neck of a large stoneware jug or salt-mouth bottle that a loose bag is formed, which will hang down about two-thirds of the distance inside the jar. Put the fine powder, to fill not more than one-half, into the bag, and tie a piece of stout paper over the jar or bottle. Now take hold of the jar with both hands and give it a rocking motion on its bottom forward and backward so that the bag strikes the sides of the jar. The "flour" only will pass through, and the "grit" will be left behind. It is astonishing what amount of grit will thus be found in the so-called "finest" powder.—*Druggists' Circular*.

Abstracts of Patents.

The following are abstracts of patents which have become void:—

PULMONARY AND CUTANEOUS AFFECTIONS. This is the invention of Hulderich Wartmann, a Swiss physician, and letters patent (No. 1,163. 1883. 6d.) were granted to Mr. J. T. Dann, of 32 Canterbury Road, Brixton. The specification consists of illustration and description of apparatus required for subjecting the patient to fumes of "sulphuric matter," "liquid medical substances," and "herbal substances."

TRUSS. (No. 1,224. 1883. 6d.) Letters patent were granted to Ernest M. Bourjeaud, of 49 Davies Street, Berkeley Square, London, for a truss for inguinal hernia. The specification is illustrated, the drawings showing how the spring levers or arms are adapted to the pad, and how certain screws, being part of the claim, apply. The invention is adapted to single and double trusses.

FIRE EXTINGUISHER. (Abel. No. 1,554. 1883. 6d.) This is the invention of E. F. Niven, of Paris. It is a solution made as follows:—Hydrochloric acid, 20° Beaume, 100 parts; chloride of barium, 2 parts; lime or chalk, 28 parts. Mix the powders gradually with the acid, and add to the solution a solution of 4 parts of potash alum in 8 parts of boiling water. When cold add a solution of 5 parts of hydrochlorate of ammonia and the same of borax in 15 parts of boiling water. The solution when required for use is "mixed with 10 to 15 per cent. of water," and directed to the burning material in the form of a spray.

CATTLE FOOD (Inventor, S. O. Kjer. No. 1,674. 1883. 4d.) This is a combination of defibrinated blood with blood albumin and a farinaceous mixture. It may be made as follows:—Take 100 lbs of defibrinated blood, and mix with it 25 lbs. of albumin precipitated from blood by means of acetic acid; then add the following mixture, or as much of it as will make a dough:—

Meal	50 lbs.
Straw	50 "
Crushed flax seed	2 "
White bone meal	2 "
Salt	1 "

Bake the dough in an oven at a temperature not exceeding 212° Fahr.

INK. (No. 741. 1881. 2d.) Mr. A. F. Stoddart, of Bristol, proposed to utilise spent tan-liquor by turning it into ink. This he effected by allowing the liquor to subside, and adding to each oz. of the clear liquor (concentrated if need be) from 2 to 5 grains of green copperas. Gum was added if required, but it generally was not. After the ink was made it was exposed to the air in tubs for three weeks, so that it might become "ferric."

SOLUBLE CERIUM COMPOUNDS. (No. 1,275. 1880. 2d.) Mr. J. B. Mackey, wholesale druggist, of Bouverie Street, E.C., was granted these letters patent for the manufacture of a new soluble compound of cerium, to be employed for medicinal purposes. This was made in the following manner:—

(1) Prepare oxide of cerium by igniting oxalate of cerium in an open vessel. Dissolve the oxide in nitric or sulphuric acid, and precipitate the hydrated oxide by means of potash or soda.

(2) Dissolve the hydrated oxide in a solution of citrate of ammonia; by this means a slightly alkaline solution of a double citrate of cerium and ammonia is obtained.

The following are abstracts of specifications recently published:—

DISINFECTING POWDER. (No. 11,011. August 28, 1886. 4d.) Peat or turf is dried, ground, and mixed with 10 to 20 per cent. of carbolic acid, sanitas, creosote, or any disinfectant. It may be coloured with ochre or other pigment. The inventors are J. W. Knights, of Cambridge, and W. D. Gall, of Little Shelford.

FOOD FOR CONSUMPTIVES. (No. 11,677. September 14, 1887. 4d.) Mr. P. Eckhaus, 96 Milton Street, Fore Street, E.C., with Mr. H. Leapman, a jeweller of the city of London, propose to blend "Booke de Goste" ($\frac{1}{16}$ ths), a species of

groat meal, and "Dutch Gries," a superior kind of semolina ($\frac{1}{16}$ th), for the prevention and cure of diseases of the digestive, arterial, respiratory, and secretive organs. The virtues of the mixture are fully described.

WRAPPER FOR BOTTLES. (No. 13,719. October 26, 1886. 8d.) This is the combination with a sheet of wrapping paper of pieces (two or more) of corrugated paper, or other packing substance, in such a manner that the bottle may not slip, while it is at the same time protected to a certain extent from breakage. Mr. J. N. Beach, Hart Street, W.C., and Mr. G. H. M. Smith, are the patentees.

FEEDING BOTTLES. (J. W. Jackson, 48 Lansdowne Place, Brighton. No. 7,050. May 26, 1886. 6d.) (Illustrated.) The bottles (barrel and flat oval shapes) are made of thin iron or other metal, enamelled inside and out; otherwise there is nothing new in the invention.

PEPTONES. (W. Merck, Darmstadt. No. 8,468. June 28, 1886. 6d.) This applies to improvements in the production of peptone from nucleo-peptones, or the separation of nuclein from the latter. The inventor shows how he proceeds by taking the casein of milk as an example. The casein is, after separation, digested under pressure at 150° to 170° C. with water, or an acid (e.g. sulphuric) or an alkali (e.g. potash), until it is completely peptonised. The remainder consists of nuclein, which may be separated by filtration or other means. The filtrate is further evaporated at 35° to 40° C. until it becomes a syrup; any unaltered albumin is separated from it, and precautions taken to ensure that the syrup contains only casein-peptone (the means being described). Finally the syrup is evaporated to dryness, or precipitated with alcohol. An alternative method is given.

ADMINISTRATION OF MEDICINES. (A. Jacobelli, Professor of Anatomy, University, Naples. No. 8,488. June 28, 1886. 1s. 1d.) (Three sheets of diagrams.) This is a description of the inventor's *Atmiometer*. It is not possible to convey a correct idea of the construction of the apparatus without the drawings, which are many and complicated. The object of the "*Atmiometer*" is to administer medicines in the form of gas, dry powder, or smoke, in exact and regulated quantities. This is accomplished as follows:—(1) The medicine, in solution or otherwise, is heated in a chamber, the vapour passes into another chamber, from which the patient inhales it; (2) into the latter chamber only pure air is admitted; (3) there is an arrangement (the pneumotograph) for measuring the amount of medicated vapour which the patient inhales; and (4) when a dry powder is used for medicating the air it is forced into the chamber by means of a chonogen—essentially an enema bag. Compressed air is used, and there are means for injecting poisonous liquids into the stomach, and withdrawing them at once, so that they "may just causticise the diseased surroundings, without poisoning the organism." The apparatus is suitable for treating all communicable cavities of the body, and the inventor remarks that "the success obtained on patients who have exhausted all other means hitherto known is the best proof of the novelty and usefulness of the invention, and legitimates the great and favourable impression the '*Atmiometer*' has made upon the scientific men of the world."

COMPLEXION IMPROVER. (Sarah A. Perry, Southampton Lodge, Oakleigh Park, Whetstone. No. 9,167. July 14, 1886. 4d.) A potion for improving the skin and complexion, which is prepared from the following formula:—

Pure cod-liver oil	7 oz.
Compound syrup of phosphates	1 "
Sulphate of quinine	3 grains

The proportions may not be adhered to. In her provisional specification Miss Perry states that the compound syrup is prepared according to the formula in the *Extra Pharmacopœia*, and the potion is stated to possess all the properties of a specific for curing many kinds of skin derangements, and especially those known as "pimples" or "muddy complexion."

SOFTENING WATER. (J. S. Sawrey, 20 Bucklersbury, E.C. No. 9,227. May 15, 1886. 8d.) (Illustrated.) Water is softened by means of soda, lime, or alumina, separately or combined. This, however, is subsidiary to the apparatus used in the process. A description and drawing of this are given, but they are of purely mechanical interest.

Medical Gleanings.

THALLIUM AS A MEDICINE.

MR. CROOKES'S thallium has come into use as a medicine. From experiments made by Dr. Kreis, and corroborated by Prof. Goll, a weak solution of the sulphate of the metal destroys gonococci. Accordingly Prof. Goll recommends the use of thallium salts in the treatment of gonorrhœa. He particularly recommends sulphate of thallium bougies as very efficacious, especially in the treatment of chronic gonorrhœa. He employs for this purpose bougies of cacao-butter with 5 per cent. of sulphate of thallium. He also tried the tannate of thallium, but entirely discarded it, having found its action, like that of nitrate of silver, too intensely caustic and coagulating.

ACTION OF CAFFEINE AND THEINE UPON VOLUNTARY MUSCLE.

DRS. LAUDER BRUNTON and Theodore Cash, in a paper communicated to the Royal Society, state that caffeine and theine both cause rigor in the voluntary muscles of frogs. Theine seems to be rather more powerful than caffeine, but the quantitative difference between them is slight. There is, however, a marked qualitative difference between them, inasmuch as theine tends to produce rhythmical contractions in the muscle. A variation is observed in the action of the alkaloids on the different muscles of the same frog. The addition of lactic acid to a solution of theine or caffeine causes the rigor to appear sooner, develop more rapidly, and attain a greater maximum, and a somewhat similar effect is produced by calcium chloride. Potash retards and diminishes the action of theine or caffeine. The authors also call attention to the rhythmic contraction of the muscle produced by theine.

A NEW AND IMPERVIOUS DRESSING.

PHOTOXYLIN, a substance in use amongst photographers, was recommended some time ago by Dr. Krysinski as a suitable material for mounting microscopic specimens, and more recently still it has been utilised by Professor Wahl, of St. Petersburg, as a substitute for collodion in surgical practice. A 5 per cent. solution in equal parts of alcohol and ether he finds preferable to collodion, as it adheres more firmly to the skin, not being so easily rubbed off in washing. It is absolutely impervious to liquids, and exerts a perfectly even compression on the tissues. It is stated, according to the *Lancet*, that a thin layer of wool soaked in solution of photoxylin and placed over a plastered wound will remain eight or ten days entirely resisting all the effects of moisture. Photoxylin appears to be unknown in this country. It was introduced by Messrs. Mann, of St. Petersburg.

A CASTOR-OIL DRAUGHT.

A CORRESPONDENT of the *British Medical Journal* communicates the following pharmaceutical hints. The first is for the easy administration of castor-oil:—

Ol. ricini	3ij.
Tr. rhei co.	3j.
Ess. menth. pip. vel cinnam... ..	ʒi.
Shake and add	
Liq. magnes. bicarb. recent. ad	3j.

Five drachms of oil can be given in an ounce-and-a-half draught. He has always failed to make it in quantity, and says the ingredients should be mixed in the phial they are to be sent in. The B.P. solutions of morphine always form a deposit on the stopper or neck of the bottle; this can be prevented by the addition of half a drachm of glycerine to each ounce of the solution. Ungt. gallæ c. opio, no matter how well rubbed up, is always gritty; this can be completely removed by rubbing the opium with a few drops of hot water.

TINCTURA FERRI MURIATIS, PH. ED.

THE views expressed by Dr. Charles Bell (*THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST*, vol. xxx. p. 720) regarding the superiority of the Edinburgh Pharmacopœia tincture of muriate of iron have not been allowed to go unchallenged. Mr. Sydney Plowman,

F.R.C.S., replies both from a pharmaceutical and medical point of view. Regarding the form in which the iron exists in the tinctures (B.P. and E.P.), he is of opinion that it is practically the same when they are freshly prepared, although it may be that in the Edinburgh tincture the reduction of part of the iron from the ferric to the ferrous state, with accompanying formation of chlorinated ethereal bodies, may take place more rapidly because the tincture contains more alcohol. As to the therapeutic effects of the tincture, Mr. Plowman sums up his denial of Dr. Bell's statement by saying that "we require a little more evidence than this before we reject a preparation which has been official for twenty-three years, in favour of another which does not now receive official recognition," and expresses his surprise that Dr. Bell is able to tell the difference between the two preparations. There is really, however, little difficulty about the matter, as we remarked in our issue of June 11, both the old London and Edinburgh tinctures "differed from the one now official in that from the beginning they contained the iron in the ferric and ferrous conditions and probably in some other condition which has not been determined. Ethereal bodies, such as chloride of ethyl, were also present," and these characteristics are sufficient to render the old tinctures perfectly distinct from the new one—at least physically. Other writers support Mr. Plowman in regard to the undoubted therapeutic activity of the B.P. tincture.

THERAPEUTICS OF HEART DISEASE.

FROM a clinical lecture on this subject by Dr. Thomas Oliver (Newcastle-on-Tyne), published in the *Lancet*, we extract the following notes on recent remedies:—

Kola Paste.—Patients who are the subjects of heart disease get two drachms of the kola paste mixed well with boiling water, sweetened with sugar, and either flavoured or not with vanilla. This is given night and morning, with the result of increased diuresis (a fact explained by the 2 per cent. of caffeine which it contains), at the same time it acts as a cardiac tonic and nutritive. Dropsy sometimes disappears under its use, and it relieves the headache complained of occasionally by patients the subjects of cardiac disease consequent upon contracted kidney and diseased arteries.

Strophanthus Dr. Oliver regards as one of the most powerful cardiac tonics we possess. He has tested the therapeutical values of ethereal tinctures made from the pericarp, hairs, and seeds of the plant. [Alcoholic tinctures made from the ether-washed drugs.—ED.] From the tincture made from the pericarp no decisive results were obtained, although one patient, the subject of aortic regurgitation who could not take convallaria without feeling sick, said that when the dose was pushed it relieved præcordial pain. It did not increase the amount of urine passed. The tincture made from the hairs—which in colour is not unlike that made from the seeds, a beautiful green—answered well. Its efficacy is less marked than that made from the seeds. It is not nearly such a strong diuretic. From his experience of the tincture made from the seeds, he regards strophanthus as a powerful cardiac drug; it acts quickly and strongly upon cardiac muscular fibre in small doses, but in large doses it is a cardiac irritant and muscular poison.

Barium chloride raises arterial tension, and thus acts as a diuretic. With half-grain doses morning and evening, several cases of aortic regurgitation have had their pulse ratio reduced, the pulse rendered fuller and firmer, and the amount of urine increased. Its action as a cardiac tonic is indirect.

Paraldehyde, in doses of from fifteen to thirty grains, answers well in the treatment of the insomnia of heart disease, but, owing to its very unpleasant taste, patients refuse to take it after a few trials. Not so with *urethan*, which, in doses of ten grains and upwards, is one of the safest hypnotics in cardiac disease. Opium and chloral are unsafe soporifics, but urethan acts well, and is perfectly safe. It is less unpleasant than paraldehyde; in fact, if there is any marked unpleasant taste with the drug, Dr. Oliver says that the probability is that it is of English and not of German make. He has seen a patient, the subject of heart disease, who had not slept for several days, fall into a calm and placid sleep after a few grains of urethan, waken from it calmly four or five hours after without any dyspnoea, and express himself as feeling quite a new man to what he had been a few hours previously.

Trade Report.

Note to Retail Buyers:—It should be remembered that the quotations in this section are invariably the lowest net cash prices actually paid for large quantities in bulk. In many cases allowances have to be added before ordinary prices can be ascertained. Frequently goods must be picked and sorted to suit the demands of the retail trade, causing much labour and the accumulation of rejections, not all of which are suitable, even for manufacturing purposes.

It should also be recollected that for many articles the range of quality is very wide.

42 CANNON STREET, E.C., August 11.

IN the drug sales to-day some commotion was caused by the reluctance of a broker to sell a parcel of rhubarb which was printed as for sale "without reserve." The prices offered were evidently below his anticipations, and he showed a desire to withdraw the parcel, but was prevented by the buyers, to whose remonstrances he ultimately gave way, thus acknowledging the obligation of a seller to part with lots catalogued "without reserve" at whatever price may be offered by buyers.

The offering of a retail lot of opium, some 15 lbs. in weight, gave rise to another "scene." A wholesale druggist offered 16s. per lb. for a lot, but desired to know by whom it had been given for sale to the broker, who replied that he did not know. An animated discussion of considerable length then ensued, in which Messrs. Quincey, Barron, Horner, and Lescher took part, each of these gentlemen protesting against the sale of goods concerning the origin of which no satisfactory explanation could be given. Ultimately, after it had been shown that the lot was inadvertently included in the catalogue, it was withdrawn. The protest was chiefly raised with a view to prevent illegal acquirers of goods from disposing of them by public auction, though of course there is no reason whatever to suppose that the brokers generally offering goods in the drug sales would lend their assistance to such a proceeding, nor did there seem any foundation whatever for suspicion against the *bona-fide* origin of the lot in question.

ACID (CITRIC) quiet and tending lower at 1s. 8½d. to 1s. 8¾d. per lb.

ACID (TARTARIC) steady and in fair request, English at 1s. 7¼d., foreign at 1s. 7d. per lb.

ALOES.—Large quantities of the new season's crop from *Curaçao* were offered for sale to-day, but the demand was by no means equal to the supply, and owners were forced to accept very low prices in order to dispose of their goods. With the exception of a few cases good bright liver, which sold at 95s. per cwt., the supply consisted of fair to ordinary "capey" aloes, mostly in gourds. These fetched from 35s. down to 9s. per cwt., according to quality. Of *Cape* aloes there was a moderate selection of poor quality, nothing of which was sold. Some lots good *Socotra* and *Zanzibar* aloes, partly very soft, were bought in at 7l. per cwt.

ANISE.—Thirty bags old and stony *Russian* seed sold at 24s. to 24s. 6d. per cwt., at which price, to 25s. per cwt., other lots are obtainable. Ten cases *Star anise* of very faint flavour were bought in at 72s. 6d. per cwt.

ARECA NUTS.—Eight bags split nuts from Ceylon found a buyer at the rate of 8s. 6d. per cwt.

ARSENIC remains very steady, and powdered white sells at 11s. 3d. to 11s. 6d. per cwt. landed.

BALSAMS remain neglected. Some old *Tolu* fetched from 1s. to 1s. 3d. per lb., and for *Peruvian* balsam, 4s. 7½d. per lb. was suggested, but failed to tempt purchasers. Probably 4s. 6d. per lb. might be accepted for good quality.

CANNABIS INDICA.—Ten bales stalk containing a small proportion of leaf were bought in at 4d. per lb., greatly over

value, and 31 bales very common stalky and dusty tops realised 2d. per lb., "without reserve."

CANTHARIDES.—A cask of old *Russian* flies, rather mouldy, was bought in at 7s. 6d. per lb. nominally. The new crop is now arriving.

CALUMBA.—The 141 bags offered did not include any root of fine quality. Forty bags rather dark, small and wormy root changed hands cheaply at 10s. 6d. per cwt.

CARDAMOMS.—Values remain unchanged. The bulk of the quantity offered to-day, numbering about 200 boxes, was sold at the following rates: *Ceylon Malabar*, of which variety nearly the whole consisted, at 2s. to 2s. 1d. for good pale plump; 1s. 9d. to 1s. 11d. for small and medium mixed palish; 1s. 7d. for medium, pale, rather warty; 1s. 5d. to 1s. 6d. for fair brownish plump or shrivelled; and 1s. 3d. to 11d. per lb. for small to very small and lean. Some open shells realised 2d. per lb. Seed sold at 1s. 3d. to 1s. 5d. per lb., and a lot small *Wild Ceylon* cardamoms at 7d. per lb. The exports from Ceylon are still increasing. The quantities shipped from that island in the periods from October 1 to July are: 14 1886-87, 280,734 lbs.; 1885-86, 204,914 lbs.; 1884-85, 127,708 lbs.

CASCARILLA.—Thirty-three bales sold cheaply; fair broken quill, partly silvery, at 30s.; very thin brown ditto, partly sea damaged, at from 17s. to 20s. 6d. per cwt.

CASTOR SEED.—One box was sold at 5s. per cwt.

CAYENNE PEPPER is reported to be rather scarce at present. A case of fine bright quality is held at 1s. 10d. per lb.

CHAMOMILES.—The new crop is of very ordinary quality, and below the average as regards quantity, the drought having severely damaged the flowers. Holders of old crop now ask from 65s. to 70s. for good quality.

CINCHONA.—Forty-three bales good genuine, but rather thin and soft, flat yellow *Calisaya* realised very steady prices, 2s. 1d. per lb. for sound, and 1s. 2d. to 1s. 7d. per lb. for damaged; while 22 serons good partly silvery *Crown* quill sold at 1s. 3d. for damaged, and 1s. 4d. to 1s. 6d. for sound. An offer of 2½d. per lb. for old *Maracaibo* bark was refused. At present 3,732 packages cinchona are advertised for public sale on Tuesday next. The exports from Ceylon during the periods from October 1 to July 14 stand as follows:

1886-87	1885-86	1884-85
11,753,003 lbs.	12,860,526 lbs.	8,982,284 lbs.

According to the latest mail advices from Colombo, prices on that market were considerably in excess of those prevailing in London at the same time. It is stated that branch bark has now sunk so low in price that it cannot possibly pay the cost of production, yet it continues to be exported in large quantities, keeping down the value of stem bark. The Ceylon growers are therefore advised not to harvest the ordinary branch barks any longer.

COCA LEAVES.—Several parcels *Huanoco* as well as *Truxillo* leaves were catalogued for sale to-day. An offer of 1s. per lb. for the latter was declined, and the parcel, consisting of 40 bales, just imported, was bought in at 1s. 6d. per lb. nominally.

COCULUS INDICUS.—No change has occurred in the market. *Cochin* neglected, at 9s. to 9s. 6d. per cwt., according to quality.

COCOA BUTTER has advanced. On Tuesday's auction 100 cases Cadbury's sold, commencing at 1s. 1½d., declining to 1s. 1d. and closing at 1s. 1¼d. per lb.

CORIANDER SEED is rising in price owing to the reported scarcity of the coming crop.

CREAM OF TARTAR is again dearer. Our stock of the French article is extremely small, and large purchases have been made in Italy for shipment to England. 130l. per ton has been paid for firsts.

CUBEBS.—Several lots of the new crop have changed hands in Holland. There is on that market a parcel of 79 bales, for which a parity of 18l. per cwt. is now asked. Twenty-five bales will be sold by auction at Amsterdam on August 11.

On the London market rather higher prices are quoted for cubeb than in Holland, parcels having changed hands here at 20 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cwt.

CUMIN SEED.—The new crop of Malta seed is now arriving, and the article is consequently somewhat less scarce. Values are well maintained, however. An offer of 43s. per cwt. was refused to-day, when 41 bags were bought in at 48s. per cwt., which is said to be the price.

DRAGON'S BLOOD.—Six cases fine bright red cake sold at low prices, the first lot at 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ 17s. 6d. per cwt., the others at 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ 7s. 6d. per cwt. A case very ordinary drossy cake was disposed of at 34s. per cwt.

ERGOT OF RYE.—From the Continent a firmer market is reported. In auction only 4 cases old and wormy *Spanish* seed were offered, and sold at 1s. per lb.

GALLS.—The market remains very quiet, and the demand is of the slightest. *China* are quoted 57s.; *Japan*, from 52s. 6d. to 54s.; *Turkey*, blue, 58s. to 60s.; white, 45s. per cwt. In to-day's sales only one lot of the latter was sold.

GUM AMMONIACUM.—The 29 packages offered did not meet with any competition, and the entire supply was bought in. One lot fine bold free drop, but rather old, is held at 35s. per cwt.; small free pale drop and grain, at 25s.; seedy, blocky and dark gum, at 15s. per cwt.; all very low prices.

GUM ANIMI.—At the last public sales 21 cases *Zanzibar* went off slowly, and only 9 cases sold, fair rather small pale and reddish, 14 $\frac{1}{2}$ 2s. 6d.; very small, 12 $\frac{1}{2}$; common dull red, part bold, 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ 12s. 6d.; bean and pea, small, 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ 15s.; pickings, 82s. 6d. Forty-three cases *Madagascar* sold, medium clean pale, 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ 7s. 6d.; pale small gum at 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ 2s. 6d.; small weak red, 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ 15s.; bean and pea sizes, fine pale, 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ 5s.; ditto yellow, 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ 7s. 6d.; ditto red, 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ 2s. 6d.; ditto weak, 67s. 6d.; low, 20s.; pickings, 39s. to 40s.

GUM ARABIC.—*Australian* gum met a strong demand at the late auctions, and realised higher rates, especially for the gums partly frosted and free from wood, good fair gum bringing 70s. to 74s. per cwt.; rough and part woody, 60s. to 65s. per cwt. At to-day's sales a barrel good pale frosty drop, partly small and glassy mixed, fetched 75s. per cwt. In *Barbary* gum a few small sales of Amrad, at 77s. 6d. per cwt., have occurred. *Brown* gum is quite nominal, the few parcels offering being of very poor quality. In *East Indian* gums, 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ 10s. to 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ 10s. is asked for good Aden sorts, free from olibanum smell. Good Amrad is dearer, middling pale, small mixed, 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ 7s. 6d. per cwt. *Barbary kinds* firm at 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ 5s. per cwt. Good Ghatti has been sold at 59s. and 62s. per cwt. In *Egyptian* gums a few sales of Amrad have been effected, including a few bales of fine at 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cwt. *Turkey sorts* arrive only in small lots, and mostly with high limits. One lot small pale *picked Turkey* sold at 19 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cwt. to-day, other parcels are held up to 21 $\frac{1}{2}$ 10s. per cwt. The prospect of resumption of regular commercial relations with the Soudan becomes more and more remote. In Trieste holders are very firm. Bordeaux reports state that the position of Senegal gum on that market is becoming more and more critical, prices having now risen to a figure which keeps off the consumers. In less than three months from now the total crop of Galam gum, about 10,000 bags, will have arrived in Europe, and it is thought that it would be difficult to dispose of such a quantity, especially if the gum should turn out to be partly of an undesirable quality.

GUM BENJAMIN.—Two cases fine *Siam* gum, in bold loose almonds, sold to-day at 25 $\frac{1}{2}$ 10s. per cwt. *Sumatra* gum is rather neglected; 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ 10s. was refused for a lot of fine bold white almondy gum, very slightly false packed. Ordinary resiny *Palembang* sold at 49s. per cwt.

GUM ELEMI.—Thirty-four packages good to fine white *Manilla* sold at 33s. to 35s. per cwt., about 1s. below valuation. Three cases fair yellowish gum are in the market, at 31s. per cwt.

GAMBOGE.—Twenty-seven cases were offered to-day, fourteen of which sold at about the recent reduction, viz., 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ 12s. 6d. to 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ 17s. 6d. for old run and broken pipe of fair colour, and 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ 2s. 6d. to 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ 5s. for broken and discoloured old pipe.

GUM MYRRH.—There is no competition for this article,

and it is doubtful whether even the reduced prices of the last auctions could now be obtained. Nominally fair Aden sorts are still held at 95s. per cwt.

GUM OLIBANUM.—At the last auctions a good demand prevailed and prices ruled steady, fair bright *Bombay* drop selling at 43s. 6d. to 44s. 6d.; middling badly garbled, 42s.; ordinary ungarbled and rather blocky sorts, 40s. to 44s.; low ditto, 20s. 6d.; garblings, dark, 14s. to 14s. 6d.; siftings, 10s. 6d. Aden sold as follows: Small drop, 41s.; good but ungarbled, 35s. to 36s.; low, 17s.

GUM OPOPONAX.—A box containing about 7 lbs. of this resin, in reddish-brown lumps, partly drossy was sold at 21s. per lb.

GUM SANDARAC.—Fair to good clean quality is held at 60s. to 65s. per cwt.

GUM TRAGACANTH remains quiet. Fair small white seconds bought in at 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ 5s. per cwt.

HONEY.—A consignment of new *Californian* honey sold at very steady prices, fair to good thin brown, 21s. 6d. to 27s. 6d.; dark, 16s. 6d. per cwt. 71 cases old *Californian* are offering at 27s. to 30s. for medium quality, which seems rather dear.

INSECT FLOWERS.—The three bales flower heads noticed in our last issue were again offered to-day, and bought in at the nominal price of 130s. per cwt.

IODINE and IODIDES remain unchanged since our last report.

IPECACUANHA.—Consignments still continue to arrive, and of 58 packages offered in auction to-day only 11 were sold, at an average reduction of 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ per lb. Good stout annulated root, slightly sea damaged, sold at 4s. 10d.; fair, partly mouldy ditto, at 4s. 7d. to 4s. 6d., and badly damaged, at 4s. 3d. per lb.

JALAP sold at rather better prices to-day, and is also reported dearer in Hamburg. From 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ 7d. per lb. was paid for wormy and damaged to fair, sound Vera Cruz, a rise of 1d. per lb. since the last auctions.

LIME JUICE remains firm at 1s. 8d. to 1s. 9d. per gallon for Jamaica, containing more or less impurities.

LIQUORICE.—Eighteen cases paste are held at 40s. per cwt., while some ordinary root was bought in at 5s. per cwt. Large arrivals of root, about 30 or 40 tons, have been received at Liverpool.

MERCURIALS have all risen 1d. per lb., in sympathy with the advance in quicksilver.

MICHELIA NILAGIRICA.—A bale of this bark in flat reddish-coloured pieces, apparently stripped from large trees, was offered for sale, but taken out. We understand that a decoction of this bark is used by the natives of India as a febrifuge, and that the bark yields a red dyeing material. Large quantities would eventually be available, but the article is scarcely likely to find a market in Europe.

MORPHIA remains firm, the makers still asking 7s. 6d. per oz.

MUSK.—Good Tonquin pods are again very scarce; it is said that only a few tins are left in the warehouse. At to-day's auctions a small supply was well competed for, and sold at an advance of 4s. 6d. per oz. *Tonquin* pods, first pile, with thin blue skin and under skin, dry but rather small and partly broken sold at 87s. 6d. per oz.; second pile, good dry pods but skinny, small and hard at 47s.; third pile, all adulterated, good boldish pods, 47s.; skinny ditto, 30s.; trimmings, 2s. 9d., and one bag spurious pod with hair and skin attached at 6d. per oz. Some fair *grain* musk realised 50s. per oz.

OIL (COD-LIVER).—There is no alteration to report on the market, but a good autumn business is expected, and holders anticipate that buyers will then have to come round to their requirements.

OILS (ESSENTIAL).—*Star-anise* is held at 7s. 5d. per lb., but no business is doing. A lot of "unworked" oil offered in sale to-day, is limited at 7s. 3d. per lb. *Bergamot* is very firm, and more money is asked in Italy, but there is little doing on our market. *Cassia* remains very quiet at 2s. 8d., perhaps 2s. 7d. per lb. *Cinnamon* oil in fair supply at 1s. 6d.

for good quality. *Citronella* unchanged at $\frac{7}{8}d.$ to $\frac{1}{10}d.$ per oz. for native brands. The Ceylon shipments now stand as follows:—October 1 to July 14, 1886–87, 6,628,578 oz.; 1885–86, 4,769,430 oz.; 1884–85, 4,688,618 oz. The French *Lavender* crop will shortly be ready for distillation. Prices of this, as well as of English oil, may go lower. Oil of *Lemon* steady, but without much business. *Lemongrass* also unchanged. There was a good demand for *Nutmeg* oil at to-day's sales, and prices ruled slightly higher, $\frac{5}{12}d.$ per oz. being paid for Fisher's, and $\frac{4}{12}d.$ per oz. for other brands. Eight cases *Patehouly* oil, an article not often seen at the London drug sales, were bought in at 3s. 9d. per oz. for Fisher's and 3s. 6d. per oz. for another brand. American *Peppermint* is still offering at 14s. per lb. on the spot for H. G. H. brand. H. and P. and L. B. H. oils would probably sell at 13s. 6d. per lb. Japanese oil held at 4s. 6d. to 5s. 6d., according to quality. Mitcham firm. *Peppermint* crystals very cheap and abundantly offering. Ordinary *Nang-yang* sold at 7s. per oz.

OILS (FIXED).—*Castor* is tending higher, $\frac{4}{12}d.$ being now required for Italian, and 4d. for fine Calcutta. *Cocoonut* oil unchanged, at 24l. for Ceylon, 31l. to 33l. for Cochin, and 26l. for Mauritius. *Cottonseed* oil slightly firmer for crude, which is quoted at 19l. on the spot, refined being quoted at 20l. 15s. *Linseed* remains steady, at 21l. 7s. 6d. to 21l. 10s. landed. *Olive* oils remain very firm, though momentarily business is still restricted. Spanish oil is worth 37l., Sicilian 32l. 10s., and Mogadore 31l. The reports relating to the coming Italian crop are disquieting. In Sicily, it is said, the yield may be considered a failure, while in Northern Italy the prospect is said to be very unfavourable. In Naples prices are tending higher, and it is reported from that quarter that during the past fortnight excessive heats have prevailed, which have caused uneasiness for the olive crops. Thus far the complaints are restricted to the drying up and dropping of olives on the poorer soils of Taranto and the province of Lecce, and to the appearance of the olive fly in the lower districts of Gioja; but the heats in July having been much more intense than for many years back, there are greater apprehensions than usual for the safety of the crops. *Palm* oil is steadier at 20l. 10s. to 21l. for fine Lagos. *Petroleum* quiet at $\frac{5}{12}d.$ to $\frac{5}{16}d.$ for American, and $\frac{4}{12}d.$ to 5d. for Russian oil, on the spot. *Rape* oil is rather less demanded, though prices are slightly firmer than at the close of last week. Brown English on the spot is quoted at 21l. 15s., and refined at 23l. 5s. *Turpentine* somewhat lower, at 25s. 6d. for American, on the spot, 24s. 9d. for September-December, and 25s. 9d. for January-April.

OPIUM.—Some business in soft shipping opium is reported. At the auctions to-day the offering of about 15 lbs. opium gave rise to a controversy, which we report elsewhere. The Smyrna market is at present exceedingly quiet, but the holders of opium are by no means inclined, it is said, to sell below the rates recently established. These were: 18s. 2d. per lb. for new opium, and from 16s. 2d. to 17s. 3d. for old Karahissar. Some small sales have actually been made, but they do not exceed forty cases during the last fortnight. Up to August 4 the arrivals at Smyrna from the interior were 187 cases, against 1,036 cases at the corresponding date of 1886. Judged by these arrivals, the crop will not exceed the figures mentioned in our recent article, viz, from 1,800 to 2,000 cases; but it is more likely to approach the former than the latter total. The future prospects of the article depend greatly on the importance of the purchases by the Dutch Government. It is reported that the latter has already applied for firm offers of 600 cases; but nothing positive is as yet known about this.

ORANGE PEEL is very cheap and neglected. Some fairly good thick cut *Malta* sold at 8d. per lb.

ORRIS ROOT commands more attention in Italy, where there is only a small stock left, while the new crop is said to be a very small one. *Florence* root is quoted there at 24s. to 28s., according to quality. *Verona* at 12s. to 14s. 6d. per cwt.

POTASH COMPOUNDS.—*Bichromate* remains inactive at $\frac{4}{12}d.$ per lb., while *Chlorate* rules at 6d. to $\frac{6}{16}d.$ per lb. *Permanganate* is firm at 85l. per ton, makers' price. *Prussiate* steady at $\frac{7}{12}d.$ per lb. for yellow.

QUICKSILVER.—At the commencement of the week the importers advanced their quotation to 7l. per bottle, at which

figure a considerable amount of business took place, and on the following day they raised it to 7l. 5s., at which it now stands. The statistical position of the article, as compared with 1886, is as follows:—

		1886	1887
		B.	B.
Imports ..	Jan. 1 to .. July 31 ..	54,222	55,631
Exports ..	" " " " "	44,365	40,146
Estimated London stock on	" " "	71,000	60,000

QUININE.—The market has been exceedingly flat, and, although that price was not openly quoted, it is said that *German* brand in bulk might have been bought at 1s. $\frac{8}{12}d.$ per oz. In public sale to-day 2,500 oz. *Brunswick* quinine in 100-oz. tins were offered "without reserve," and sold at 1s. 7d. per oz., one lot at 1s. $\frac{7}{12}d.$ per oz., thus marking a fresh decline. One thousand oz. *Pelletier's* brand in bottles were bought in at 2s. 4d. per oz., no bid being forthcoming.

RHUBARB.—Altogether 147 cases were offered for sale, the bulk being Shensi, catalogued "without reserve." The owner of this parcel must regret having forced his goods for sale, as the prices obtained for this rhubarb were considerably below the valuation, the decline ranging from $\frac{2}{12}d.$ to 4d. per lb., or from 25 to 33 per cent. A parcel of fine Canton root also sold at a decline, though less marked in this case, as the owner did not offer his goods "without reserve." The following prices were paid:—*Shensi*, round, fair small druggists' root, 1s. 6d.; good small, orange coat, two-thirds pink fracture, 1s. 2d. to 1s. 3d.; medium sized ditto slightly wormy, $11\frac{1}{2}d.$; bold woody root, dull in coat and half dark in fracture, $8\frac{1}{2}d.$; small ditto, 6d. to 7d.; dark wormy root, of bad appearance, 6d. per lb. *Shensi*, flat; rather woody, half dark in fracture, 1s. 2d.; small, but rather better in appearance, 11d. to 1s.; medium to bold, very woody, rather dark fracture, 8d. to 9d.; small and very woody, fair fracture, 7d. to $8\frac{1}{2}d.$; woody and dull coated root, 5d. to $6\frac{1}{2}d.$ *Canton*, round small to medium fine pale coat, pink fracture, 1s. 2d. to 1s. 5d.; spongy pickings, 9d. per lb. *High dried*, small, fairly good appearance, $6\frac{1}{2}d.$ to $7\frac{1}{2}d.$; bolder, but wormy, 6d. to $6\frac{1}{2}d.$ per lb.

SAFFLOWER.—The first arrival of the new crop of *Bengal* safflower was offered in public sale on Tuesday. It consisted of 55 bales PDIM, but no offers were made for it, the whole was bought in, Class AA at 6l. 5s., and Class C at 5l. 5s.

SALEP.—One bag sold without reserve at 8l. 5s. per cwt.

SANDALWOOD.—12l. 10s. per ton is asked for 118 packages small chips, which is rather above recent pretensions.

SARSAPARILLA.—*Jamaica* root sold briskly at the recent decline, viz., 1s. 10d. to 1s. 9d. per lb. for sound to damaged grey. Ordinary *Honduras* found purchasers at 11d. to 1s. per lb. for damaged to sound. Altogether 67 packages were disposed of.

SENEGA.—Twelve bales good sound root were bought in at 1s. 8d. per lb., which indicates an easier tone in the article.

SENNA.—The new crop of *Tinnevely* leaves is now arriving in considerable quantities. A few days ago about 800 bales were unloaded by a single steamer. In sale to-day 411 packages were offered, the greater half of very ordinary quality. At first prices declined from $\frac{1}{2}d.$ to 1d. per lb., but later on this fall was to some extent recovered. A few packages very good bold green leaves realised 1s. per lb.; medium size ditto, $5\frac{1}{2}d.$ to 7d.; good ordinary to fair, mostly damaged, $3\frac{1}{2}d.$ to 5d.; and a large quantity false packed, stalky blackish leaves, mixed with stones and sand, from 2d. down to $\frac{1}{2}d.$ per lb. *Pods* sold at $2\frac{1}{2}d.$ to 3d. per lb.

SHELLAC.—A very large quantity was offered for public sale on Tuesday, about one-half of the total, viz., 1,060 chests, being garnet lac, catalogued "without reserve." Prices declined about 1s. per cwt. on second orange, and 1s. 6d. per cwt. on garnet, while button lac also sold at low rates. So long as the statistical position remains as unfavourable as it is now no lasting improvement is likely to set in, speculators being very shy of the article. The following prices were paid:—*Second orange*, unworked, Calcutta weights, 39s. 6d. to 42s. 6d.; *Garnet*, AC, blocky to good free, 34s. to 37s., mostly 36s. 6d.; *Button*, first, 43s. 6d. to 53s.; second, 41s. to 50s.; third, 33s. to 36s. 6d.

SODA COMPOUNDS.—*Ash* remains very quiet at 1½d. to 1¼d. per degree per cwt. *Bicarbonate* steady at 6l. 12s. 6d. to 6l. 15s. per ton. *Caustic* soda is not in much demand, although nominally prices remain unchanged at 7l. 10s. for cream, and 7l. 15s. for white, 60 per cent. per ton. *Soda Crystals* still remain very scarce at unchanged prices, viz., 53s. 6d. per cwt. in London, and 45s. 6d. to 46s. per cwt. on the Tyne. *Nitrate* remains quiet at 8l. 15s. to 9l. 5s., according to quality.

SPICES.—*Arrowroot* is very neglected, at unprecedented low prices, good Barbadoes at 3d., St. Vincent at 2½d. Bermuda bought in at 1s. 6d. per lb. *Cassia lignea* very flat. No sales occurred at auction. *Cloves* dearer, 11½d. per lb. paid for fair Zanzibar, and 1s. 2½d. for Penang. *Ginger* is 1s. per cwt. dearer for both Jamaica and Cochin. *Nutmegs* steady at the late rise, the Penang variety selling at 3s. 10d. for 67's to 2s. 5d. for 114's. *Mace* slightly lower, good reddish Penang at 2s. 11d. per lb. *Pepper* quiet, and lower for white; Pimento unchanged, fair Jamaica at 2¼d. per lb.

SQUILLS neglected at 2¼d. to 3½d. for fair to good dry Malta.

STROPHANTHUS.—One case pods (about 48 lbs.) is held at 20s. per lb. nominally. In sale nobody bid for it.

TONQUIN BEANS.—Ten cases old black Pará, partly very wormy, sold at comparatively good prices, viz. 1s. 2d. to 1s. 7d. per lb.

VANILLA.—Fifty-four tins *Mauritius* partly sold at 25s. 6d. for 8 to 8½ in.; 25s. for 7½ to 8½ in.; 22s. for 6½ to 8 in.; 18s. for 7½ in.; 16s. 6d. for 7 in.; 16s. for 7 to 7½ in.; 15s. 6d. for 6½ to 7 in.; 14s. 6d. for 6 to 6½ in.; 13s. to 14s. for 5½ to 6 in., and 12s. for 5½ in.

WAX (BEES') is in good supply and was sold at prices a shade below those paid at the last sales, viz., 5l. 7s. 6d. to 6l. for grey to fine pale *Australian*, and 5l. 2s. 6d. to 5l. 17s. 6d. for dark to orange *Jamaica*. Good pale Calcutta bleached wax sold at 6l. 5s. per cwt.

WAX (CARNAUBA).—55s. per cwt. paid for good yellow slightly grey mixed.

WAX (JAPAN) lower. 46s. per cwt. would now be taken for good whitish squares, while for fine quality 47s. per cwt. is asked.

THE AMERICAN MARKETS.

NEW YORK, July 29.

OIL OF PEPPERMINT.—Last week the writer visited the peppermint-growing districts in the States of New York and Michigan, and found the position of affairs in those regions as follows:—In Michigan the acreage under cultivation was found to be about one-third greater than last year, and under ordinary circumstances a proportionate increase in the crop of oil might be expected; but from personal observation and careful inquiry the conclusion has been formed that if the yield of oil comes up to that of last season, the cultivators may consider themselves fortunate. Very dry weather has prevailed for the last two months, and has greatly retarded the growth of the herb, the old plantings suffering most; indeed, to save this portion of the crop, distillation was being resorted to thus early in the season, with very poor results as to yield of oil. The new plantings set out this spring are doing better, and, although suffering from the drought to some extent, were likely to yield fairly well, especially if rain should fall in quantity, for although the old plantings are beyond the stage when rain could serve them, a week or two's rain, with hot dry weather afterwards, would undoubtedly improve the prospects of the new plantings. In Wayne County pretty much the same condition of things exists, with the important exception that the area under cultivation has not been increased, and the yield of oil from the old plantings will be very small indeed; in fact, what with dry weather and the weedy condition of the fields of old mint, this portion of the crop in this section may be looked upon as worth very little: the yield will be small and the quality inferior. These remarks apply to the second year's growth of herb. One distillery was found working at a village called Rose, the yield from one acre of old mint being only 5 lbs., and the quality of that leaving much to

be desired. Rain had fallen in considerable quantity, and the new plantings were looking well, but would not be ready for distilling till the middle of August or later. Of course in is still too soon to form anything like an accurate opinion of what the total yield of oil will be, for the crop it far from safe yet, and there are a variety of causes which may even now militate against it; but, assuming that the new plantings in Wayne County and Michigan will yield as much oil as in former years, the production from the old plantings in both districts being almost a failure (and this is known to be a fact now), the writer is convinced that the total production of American oil of peppermint will only equal an average year. Reports are being industriously circulated by some houses here, that this year the crop of peppermint will yield the largest quantity of oil ever produced in the United States. This is not a fact which can be proved by any evidence. The same parties tried these tactics last year and the year before, and although it is doubtful whether it brought them profit in money, it is well known here not to have improved their reputation for veracity. It is a mistake to suppose that the farmers are depending on their crops of peppermint for their living; in Wayne County, at any rate, hardly any of them grow more than a few acres each; and those that do plant out any quantity are the wealthy and well to do. Last year they got from \$2.75 to \$3.00 (11s. 6d. to 12s. 6d.) for the naked oil, and they will look for such figures again. The demand being now slack, some of them may perhaps sell a little less, but the great bulk of the crop will be firmly held, and stored away for a year or more, rather than parted with at a sacrifice. It may as well be stated here that the farmers keep the distillations of the old and new mint separate. The former being weedy, they sell for what it will bring; but the pure natural oil will be held for fair figures.

With regard to stock in farmers' hands, it is said that there is a considerable quantity of it in Michigan, while in Wayne County there is very little pure oil, but perhaps 1,000 lbs. of inferior quality might be found there.

LAST MONTH'S TRADE STATISTICS.

THE Board of Trade Returns for July show the following figures:—

	July, 1886	July, 1887
Imports.		
Total value	£29,452,497	£28,958,156
Exports.		
British and Irish produce ..	£18,481,374	£19,181,395
Foreign and colonial produce (partly estimated) ..	6,097,107	5,541,604

Below are the details affecting drugs and chemicals:—

	July, 1885	July, 1886	July, 1887
Imports.			
Drugs, unenumerated .. value £	58,712	46,226	54,817
Chemical manufactures and Products, unenumerated—	116,603	125,300	139,869
Alkali value £	5,771	6,484	5,363
.. value £	5,301	5,169	4,998
Brimstone value £	31,391	59,204	48,642
.. value £	8,710	15,383	11,046
Nitre (nitrate of soda) value £	65,510	137,718	78,480
.. value £	33,352	60,352	32,500
" (nitrate of potash) value £	10,082	12,963	12,349
.. value £	8,473	11,794	11,136
Quicksilver value £	32,025	334,317	356,525
.. value £	2,515	31,420	30,801
Bark, Cinchona value £	13,197	12,071	10,492
.. value £	84,044	64,374	39,763
Gum Arabic value £	8,058	2,783	4,112
.. value £	24,533	10,826	19,269
Lac, seed, shell, stick, and dye value £	13,334	5,112	10,162
.. value £	41,507	14,359	26,551
Spices—			
Cinnamon value £	95,863	60,622	48,226
.. value £	3,773	1,930	1,470
Ginger value £	14,586	4,168	4,564
.. value £	23,892	7,790	9,679
Pepper value £	7,433	1,411,165	2,092,525
.. value £	16,816	39,231	72,032

Imports—continued.

	July, 1885	July, 1886	July, 1887
Dyes and tanning materials—			
Bark (for tanners' or dyers' use) .. cwt.	32,486	48,074	41,766
.. .. value £	14,075	22,040	23,032
Aniline dyes value £	17,683	22,809	25,895
Alizarine value £	18,249	14,872	18,786
Other coal-tar dyes value £	194	—	1,103
Cochineal cwt.	666	678	398
.. .. value £	3,811	4,324	2,105
Cutch and gambier tons	2,073	1,348	1,075
.. .. value £	44,788	34,174	25,787
Indigo cwt.	1,359	2,472	2,166
.. .. value £	27,374	32,542	37,072
Madder, madder root, garancine, and munjeet cwt.	1,408	951	1,845
.. .. value £	1,918	1,365	2,521
Valonia tons	1,358	3,602	2,654
.. .. value £	21,534	51,002	39,144
Oils—			
Cocoa-nut cwt.	7,521	4,307	730
.. .. value £	11,709	6,378	1,118
Olive tons	1,276	1,511	1,631
.. .. value £	52,438	55,885	57,038
Palm cwt.	83,274	110,685	82,404
.. .. value £	113,142	114,507	77,799
Petroleum gals.	4,016,931	6,295,797	10,429,298
.. .. value £	109,543	172,583	260,681
Seed, of all kinds tons	588	1,851	747
.. .. value £	16,291	40,810	18,179
Train, blubber, and sperm tons	1,777	2,378	2,133
.. .. value £	53,353	55,638	40,733
Turpentine cwt.	35,591	61,442	65,819
.. .. value £	47,795	78,208	83,422
Rosin cwt.	122,703	145,753	155,928
.. .. value £	36,481	48,960	43,067
Tallow and stearine cwt.	130,072	102,874	104,991
.. .. value £	198,835	125,346	119,706

Exports.

	July, 1885	July, 1886	July, 1887
British and Irish produce—			
Alkali cwt.	549,809	446,899	460,001
.. .. value £	162,912	134,176	137,070
Bleaching materials cwt.	123,113	105,509	102,278
.. .. value £	40,880	32,857	38,716
Drugs and medicinal preparations (unenumerated)	68,136	73,887	64,932
Other chemicals and medicinal preparations	165,891	158,455	180,091
Chemical manure	180,254	112,667	118,470
Oil, seed tons	5,137	4,223	4,546
.. .. value £	120,243	92,952	93,748
Soap cwt.	36,092	40,416	50,095
.. .. value £	42,036	40,073	46,687
Painters' colours and materials (unenumerated)	109,168	107,465	112,114
Foreign and Colonial merchandise—			
Bark, Cinchona cwt.	9,051	7,541	7,290
.. .. value £	42,903	31,246	33,246
Chemicals (unenumerated)	16,203	18,443	17,457
Cochineal cwt.	1,256	780	533
.. .. value £	8,275	5,339	3,447
Cutch and gambier tons	830	896	901
.. .. value £	19,014	23,830	23,393
Gum Arabic cwt.	3,973	4,620	3,552
.. .. value £	12,822	15,176	11,624
Indigo cwt.	4,929	2,483	2,863
.. .. value £	90,203	50,890	63,070
Lac (various kinds) cwt.	4,109	5,419	6,071
.. .. value £	13,495	15,136	15,335
Lard cwt.	3,036	12,586	586
.. .. value £	6,057	24,617	1,048
Oils, cocoa-nut cwt.	19,522	5,318	8,457
.. .. value £	26,713	7,185	12,050
.. olive tons	232	232	309
.. .. value £	11,368	9,934	12,142
.. palm cwt.	27,250	76,180	27,703
.. .. value £	38,410	78,171	27,116
.. petroleum gals.	74,270	28,040	25,430
.. .. value £	2,878	1,352	1,351
Quicksilver lbs.	234,144	327,687	618,294
.. .. value £	18,223	28,658	54,837
Nitre (nitrate of potash) cwt.	722	661	330
.. .. value £	653	615	337
Spices, cinnamon lbs.	155,774	83,795	103,000
.. .. value £	4,676	2,716	3,971
.. pepper lbs.	1,893,672	1,477,923	1,554,500
.. .. value £	57,792	46,386	45,865
Tallow and stearine cwt.	10,023	24,636	23,248
.. .. value £	15,850	28,013	30,144

HUNGARIAN PRODUCE.

(From an Occasional Correspondent.)

BUDA-PESTH, August 6.

THE whole of the medicinal flowers and the greater part of the leaves and roots gathered in this country have now been placed on our market, and business has entered upon a stage which admits of the formation of an estimate of the probable supply and the prices of the principal articles. Taken altogether, the volume of business transacted is satisfactory, and it does not seem likely that anything will occur to cause any important changes in the moderate prices now ruling.

Among the herbs of which the crop is expected to be scarce owing to damage sustained by the drought are: Belladonna, henbane, stramonium, centaury, marshmallow, hemlock, mallow, and horehound. It is already evident that the yield of these species will be a restricted one, and it will be advisable to effect purchases without delay, the demand not falling below the average. Nothing remains of last year's crop of these herbs. The samples of the new crop already to hand show it to be of good quality. It is too early yet to form a reliable opinion regarding the prospects of conium and stramonium seeds, or of elderberries.

ALKANET ROOT.—The crop has now been gathered, and although large quantities have gone into consumption, there is still enough left here to satisfy all probable requirements. Good selected root is held at 30s., half picked at 26s., and ordinary at 22s. per cwt.

BELLADONNA ROOT.—Until date the only contracts concluded are for August-October delivery. No newly-dug root has yet been received from the growing districts. Fair quality might be had for forward delivery at 75s. per cwt., but it is certain that the yield will fall below that of the preceding season.

CAPSICUM (HUNGARIAN PEPPER).—The crop this season is quite a failure, and owners ask 100s. per cwt.

CHAMOMILES have been sent to our market in very large quantities from the growing districts, but the quality is rather undesirable, and prices are consequently low. The bulk of the new crop has already been secured by firm holders, who have exported all the best lots and the bulk of the medium qualities. The lowest qualities, suitable for extraction, may be bought at low rates. First quality is quoted at 45s., second at 35s., and third at 30s. per cwt.

ELDER FLOWERS.—The yield has been larger than last year's, but as at the same time there were a good many export orders awaiting execution, all parcels as they arrived on the market were bought up at advancing rates, so that at present there is nothing left but parcels of last year's crop and ordinary crop of the current year. Prices are nominal: new flowers, according to quality, 36s. to 40s. per cwt.; old flowers, 28s. to 34s. per cwt.

ELECAMPANE ROOT is offered in large quantities, but very little new root is being collected, the old stock weighing heavily on the market and meeting with hardly any attention. Orders for new root might likely be executed at 15s. per cwt.

HENBANE SEED.—It is expected that the season's yield will be low in quality and short as regards quantity, the drought having dried up the seed. Higher prices are therefore likely to prevail.

JUNIPER OIL of last year's distillation is offering at a reduced price, say 140s. per cwt.

LINDEN FLOWERS are now arriving in sufficient quantities to meet the foreign orders. The quality is beautiful, and it is thought that prices will improve. Quotations are as follows:—*Floris tilie arg.*, 32s.; *Europ.*, 40s.; *sine bract.*, 100s. per cwt.

POPPY FLOWERS.—At the commencement of the season prices ruled low, a good many old parcels having been left over. But it turned out that owing to the unremunerative prices the collection had been abandoned in many districts, and this circumstance, assisted by the arrival of some fresh orders, has caused the market to assume a firmer character. At first 75s. would buy, now 85s. is required.



Memoranda for Correspondents.

Always send your proper name and address: we do not publish them unless you wish.

Write on one side of the paper only; write early; and devote a separate sheet of paper to each query if you ask more than one, or if you are writing about other matters at the same time.

If you send us newspapers please mark what you wish us to read

Ask us anything of pharmaceutical interest: we shall do our best to reply.

Before writing for formulæ consult the last volume, if you have it.

Letters, queries, &c., not noticed in this issue will, if possible, be attended to next week.

Preservation of Leeches.

SIR,—The character of the water supplied to leeches appears to have much to do with their healthiness. I give mine water (from the greensand) once in three weeks or so. We very rarely lose one. As an apprentice I had to clean out the jar and change the water every day, and many died. A friend of mine keeps his leeches in an aquarium which is divided into two compartments; in one is peat, broken up, and in the other water only. The leeches breed in the peat, and are quite healthy, a portion of the water being siphoned off weekly.

Yours truly,

HEDER.

Mr. Jones's Circular.

SIR,—A copy of your journal for last week was handed to me by a friend today and in it was contained a remark bearing reference to a circular issued by me to chemists in North Wales suggesting the advisability of forming a Local Association to be called "The North Wales Chemists Association," or any other name decided upon by the meeting convened for the purpose.

Now I must say that the tone of that remark is anything but worthy of a Journal holding the position of yours. Indeed I must say it is uncalled for. True there are printers' errors contained in the circular, which was sent out rather hurriedly, but still the errors referred to in anything but a becoming manner does not alter the object in view, viz. the establishing of a Local association. Also I think it is quite premature for you to pass any opinion upon the result of that circular; for when I tell you that up to the present date nearly fifty per cent of the Chemists & Druggists who received the circular have replied favourably. So that this is sufficient to show that there is no reluctance on the part of North Wales Chemists as you imply.

You refer to me as being a Welsh Champion; I don't want the honour placed upon me, but would gladly help to place it upon some other worthier member of the chemists community in North Wales.

True my qualifications have not graduated as high as many of my friends but it was quite equal to my expectations and thoroughly entitled me to the full privilege of a Chemist and Druggist and that by Legal Examination.

I am sorry that the Editor of the Chemist & Druggist went out of his way "I trust" to attack me in such a sneering and insulting spirit without any cause whatsoever, for everyone must know that the object I have in view is not self interest nor self ambition but general protection for the whole of the Chemists & Druggists in the Principality.

I remain sir

Yours respectfully

OWEN JONES, A.Ph.S.

Llanrwst 3 Aug 1887.

Mr. Schacht and Cutting Prices.

SIR,—I find that the charge of being a "cutting chemist," and at the same time a member of the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society, which was hurled against some person unnamed (and was therefore incapable of being answered) by Mr. Whittle at the annual meeting, is now, in plain language, directed against me "George Frederick Schacht, pharmaceutical chemist, 52 Royal York Crescent, Clifton, Bristol."

The person who thus, in a letter to the *British and Colonial Druggist* of July 30, makes so free with my name prefers to withhold his own. I shall put the kindest interpretation possible upon his action, and assume that he believes in the truth of what he states; but to prevent the repetition of what is quite a mistake, I beg you will allow me to declare once more, as I have already stated in your columns, that I retired from the firm "Giles, Schacht & Co." on July 1, 1886—the date on which the change of system was commenced—and that since that day I have neither exercised any control in its management nor received one shilling of its profits.

For a time, however, I continue (at the desire of my late partners) to manufacture the preparations with which my name has been so long associated. Consequently, I have never "cut" in my life.

I am, sir, your obedient servant,

G. F. SCHACHT.

1 Windsor Terrace, Clifton, August 6.

Ointment Jars.

SIR,—I have lately bought some new ones, and remembering my old master's plan of lining his pots with tin, I had tins made for my new ones. I hope, therefore, that they will be as good in twenty years' time as they are now.

I have also a new series of extract pots; these, also, are lined with tin, to my great convenience. Of course, the "tin" must be good solid sheet.

Yours truly,
HEDER. (142/71.)

Infringements of the Pharmacy Act.

SIR,—The infringement of the Pharmacy Act by so-called botanists and small shopkeepers calls for some strong remedy at the hands of the Government. It is useless applying to the Pharmaceutical Council, as they only prosecute in a few cases. A great and lamentable mistake was made in the Pharmacy Act, viz., allowing the Pharmaceutical Council to be the only prosecuting body.

This state of things ought to be altered (and the sooner the better) by agitating for an amendment to the Act to give power to the police to prosecute (on sufficient proof) anyone infringing the Pharmacy Act—the same power they now have to prosecute a publican for selling spirits when he merely holds a beer licence. If such a law came into force we should have very little trouble with charlatans.

There should not be any difficulty in persuading a few M.P.s. to take the matter up, as it does not interfere with any vested interests, and is only a law to protect the public from law-breakers. I would also draw the attention of your readers to another means of protection, viz., that the Secretary should, on being informed that So-and-so is infringing the Act, not only send a "warning," but also publish in the best local paper his name, address, and the note containing such warning, so that the public may read and know who is and who is not a qualified person. This would in many instances act as a deterrent, and warn the thinking portion of the community. If this letter should lead to criticism, and also some practical results, my object will be attained.

Yours truly,

NEMO. (29/143.)

DISPENSING NOTES.

[The opinion of practical readers is invited on subjects discussed under this heading.]

47/142. *Welshman*.—You are not justified in adding acid to a mixture to dissolve the quinine if it is not ordered in the prescription.

60/142. *Cleveland*.—The following is the reading of your prescription and the interpretation thereof:—

	(Grammes)
Kali iodat.	2.0
Cold cream	20.0
Tinct. iod.	0.2

M. Ft. ung. Pour le front et la tempe.

Iodide of potassium	30 grains
Cold cream	3 oz.
Tincture of iodine	3 minims

Make an ointment, and direct to be applied to the forehead and the temple.

SIR,—A prescription for a tooth powder was handed me to-day to dispense; amongst the ingredients was the following:—

Lapis baptist 3j.

Can you or any of your readers kindly inform me what it is?

Yours truly,

Aix-les-Bains, August 6. H. S. NAFTEL.

[? *Lapis hepaticus*, hepatitis, a species of gypsum.]

Liniment. Saponis Comp. and Opodeldoc.

SIR,—Lin. sapon. co. is occasionally ordered, but the practice of adding *co.*, as in the case of tr. rhei. co. and tr. gentianæ, seems to be a personal habit with some prescribers. It will be interesting to know how general is the custom of adding *liquor ammoniæ* to the liniment sold as opodeldoc.

Yours truly,
HEDER.

LEGAL QUERIES.

60/140. *J. T. R.* asks what is to prevent the typical grocer, baker, butcher, shoemaker, spinster, &c., forming themselves into a corporate body under the Limited Liability Acts, and holding themselves forth to the public as barristers, solicitors, or doctors, and conduct these professions and transact business through qualified managers?

[It is quite likely that a company of seven or more unqualified persons could defy the Medical and Dental Acts to the extent of assuming the title *for the company*, not for the individuals. But as there is no open shop involved the temptation seems hardly good enough.]

65/142. *Yorkshire*.—If you have documentary or other sufficient evidence that the goods were sold to you under conditions which have not been observed, you will, no doubt, be justified in returning them and demanding repayment. But if the amount involved is not large, and especially if you have not got written evidence, you had better not take the trouble and risk of a dispute.

59/143. *Phœnix*.—If you think your wrapper is so nearly like some one else's as to be likely to deceive customers, that is rather strong evidence that it is a colourable imitation. We confess we do not know whose property is infringed by it.

5/143. *W. M.*—The Shop Hours Regulation Act applies to anyone employed in a shop up to the age of eighteen. A person would not be exempt because his apprentice was bound before the passing of the Act.

40/141. *Ferox*.—You may keep benzoline either for sale or for private use without having a petroleum licence, provided it is kept in separate glass, earthenware, or metal vessels, each of which contains not more than a pint, and is securely stopped, and that the aggregate amount kept does not exceed three gallons.

66/143. *Nemo*.—If an unqualified person sells laudanum pure and simple, but calls it "arodyne tincture," and puts it

up as a patent medicine, is he infringing the Pharmacy Act?

[We think he would if it could be shown to a magistrate's satisfaction that the stamp was used merely for the purpose of evasion.]

33/143. *Curiosity*.—In this department, on May 22, 1886, we published a letter stating that a label for quinine and iron tonic, worded just as yours is, had been sent to Somerset House and returned as "not liable."

MISCELLANEOUS INQUIRIES.

137/55. *Chemicus* (Manchester).—**Composition Essence.**—Bayberry root bark, 3 oz.; ginger, 10 drachms; cloves, 4 drachms, capsicum, 1 drachm; carbonate of potash, 15 grains. Have the drugs in coarse powder and place along with the potash in an infusion pot. Pour on them 15 oz. of boiling water and infuse for two hours; then add 4 oz. of glycerine, digest for a day, filter, and add 1 oz. of rectified spirit. The product should measure 1 pint.

141/10. *Thurra*.—The powder is impure cupric oxide.

138/17. *A. D.*—The only way to make a **Gelatine Mucilage** such as you require is to soak 1 oz. of gelatine in 2 oz. of water until soft, then dissolve by the aid of heat, add 2 drachms of nitric acid, and continue the heat until effervescence ceases. Add a little boric acid and water, if necessary, to bring the mucilage to the desired strength.

Colouring Bagatelle Balls: the black one.—*Heder* writes:—Let the ball stand for six hours in tinct. ferri perchlor. Then soak in a solution of a penny packet of Crawshaw's black dye for six hours. Dry, and polish with olive oil.

140/25. *S. S. W.*—The powder sent appears to be a mixture of lint and cotton powder, together with a small proportion of an inorganic substance which we have not examined, as it is evidently added to increase the weight.

58/141. *Boots*.—Use grease or oil to prevent boots squeaking.

8/142. *Molar*.—You had better study Tomes's "Manual of Dental Surgery" (Churchill, 14s.), and then take instructions from a dentist before you attempt to extract people's teeth.

35/142. *H. F.*—**Removing Walnut Stains.**—Chlorine water or solution of chloride of lime or soda is the best application for the removal of walnut stains.

To Clean Composition Mortars.—*Heder* says:—Stains may be removed with soft-soap and a good scrub with pumice-stone.

39/142. **Restoring Marble.**—*J. W. A.* wants a form for a preparation for "preserving or restoring black marble." The process adopted by marble-workers for filling up flaws or chips on marble is to apply a solution of glue coloured in a suitable manner (alabaster, powdered slate, ochre, or ivory black), afterwards polishing the surface with a mixture of pumice and rotten stones. Marbles are varnished with wax and turpentine.

A. A. B.—**Gout and Rheumatism** are not effectually treated by pills unless colchicum be given, and we should not be justified in giving a formula for the dissemination of that dangerous remedy in penny boxes. The safest general medicine for chronic rheumatism is the old-

fashioned electuary known as the "Chelsea Pensioner," which is composed as follows :—

Pulv. guaiaci	5iss.
Pulv. sinapis	3iij.
Sulph. sublim.	3iij.
Pulv. rhei	gr. 45
Potass. nit.	gr. 45
Mellis q. s. ft. electuarium.	

Take a teaspoonful at bedtime.

(2) Tell us how the powder you send is used.

49/143. *Chemicus*.—Tinct. opii, P.L. 1824, was made from $2\frac{1}{2}$ oz. powdered opium and 2 pints of proof spirit. The form in the P.L. 1836, was powdered opium, 3 oz., and proof spirit, 2 pints. In both cases to be macerated fourteen days, and strained. The ounces in both cases were troy, but the pint was wine measure (16 oz.) in the former, and imperial measure (20 oz.) in the latter case.

Alpha.—A solution of chloride of cobalt is used for the purpose you name. Paper impregnated with it has a blue tint, which becomes rose on exposure to moist air.

39/143. *West Riding*.—Healing Powder for dusting on sore places.—We know of nothing better than pure starch powder, with 1 oz. of French chalk to the pound.

59/143. *Phoenix*.—Oil of Nerves (Ol. Nervinum).—The following is the formula :—

	Parts
Olei chamomillae infusi	200
" carui	5
" rosmariui	10
" thymi	10

The following is a favourite formula for a laxative electuary, but we cannot say that is better than yours :—

	Oz.
Crem. tart.	3
Boracis	1
Sulphur. sublim.	2
Confect. senne	4
Syr. zingib.	3

M. Ft. elect. Coeh. 1 vel ij, h. s. s.

Carbuncle (68/143) asks :—"Can you assign a reason for the discoloration of cold cream made according to the following formula :—

Cetaeci	3ij.
Cerae alb.	3iiss.
Ol. amygd.	3xiv.
Vaselin. alb.	3iv.
Aq. rose	3viij.
Otto rosae	℥xx.
Ess. limon.	3iij.
" bergamot	℥xx.

Stir constantly till cold.

When first made it is of a pure white, and of a beautiful consistence, but after standing for a couple of months it begins to assume a dirty-looking colour, especially at the edges and on the surface."

12/142. *W. H. G.*—Ext. Piloeearpi Fluid, U.S.P., is an extract prepared from jaborandi and diluted alcohol, which roughly represents the medicine weight for weight. The properties of 100 grammes of jaborandi are contained in 100 cubic centimetres of the extract.

48/143. *D. T. E.* wants to know the composition of Congreve's Elixir.

14/143. *W. G. M.*—The tree of which you send a branch is the Calalpa Bignonia, a native of the Carolines, and cultivated in Europe.

137/33. *Chemicus* (London) and other correspondents wish full directions for the preparation of Soluble Essence of Ginger. The following note from THE CHEMISTS' AND DRUGGISTS' DIARY, 1884, gives all the necessary information: *The oldest method*.—The strong tincture—say 1 pint—is mixed with an equal volume of water containing 40 grains of alum; the mixture should be agitated thoroughly for twenty minutes, then 3viss. of liq. potassæ, B.P., added, and again agitated, and allowed to settle for two hours, when it may be filtered. This is a very rapid method of making the soluble essence, but it is somewhat deficient in aroma, as all such essences are. The researches of Dr. Thresh on the constitution of ginger show that an essence can be prepared containing a very large proportion of the aromatic and pungent bodies. Dr. Thresh first proposed carbonate of magnesia (heavy), but the essence so made becomes muddy after standing for a few weeks; the light carbonate, in the proportion of 2 oz. to 1 pint, has not this objection, we find. Dr. Thresh's second method is exceedingly workable, and we give it in his own words: "Take of strong tincture (1 in 1) of finest Jamaica ginger 1 pint; add in small proportions at a time finely-powdered slaked lime, until the tincture ceases to lose colour; throw the whole upon a filter, and pass through the residue proof spirit until the product measures 2 pints. Now add, drop by drop, dilute sulphuric acid, until the rich yellow colour suddenly disappears; let stand for twenty-four hours, filter, dilute with water to 4 pints, shake with a little powder-pumice or silica (by no means lime or magnesia), and filter at 0° C., if possible." As the lime is added the colour deepens, but becomes lighter with greater additions. The product is very pale, but it may be darkened by adding a drop or two of potash solution. Working on somewhat similar principles, we have mixed the tincture with its own bulk of water before adding the lime, then washed the lime with a little proof spirit, mixed the two liquids, shaking finally with fine sand, and laid aside until required, then filtered. The aroma may be improved by the addition of a few drops (to the pint) of essential oil of ginger. For ginger ale take :—

Soluble essence of ginger	3xix.
Essence of vanilla	3j.
Essence of lemon (soluble)	3iij.
Tincture of capsicum	3iv.
Burnt sugar	q.s.

Books.

72/142. *W. L.*—We do not know of a book specially devoted to disinfectants, but the subject is fully treated in such works as Parkes' "Manual of Practical Hygiene" (Churchill, 18s.), or Wilson's "Handbook of Hygiene and Sanitary Science" (Churchill). You will find a good summary of what the books give on disinfectants in Cooley's Cyclopædia. For details of the art of electric lighting get De Moncell's "Electric Lighting," published by Routledge (2s. 6d.). We gave practical details on the electric light for shops (from batteries) in July, 1884. Refer to that article; and you might also see the new battery and light mentioned this week under New Companies.

3/143. *F. W.*—"Moore's Handbook of British Ferns" (Groombridge) is a convenient little introduction to the study. Lowe's "Our Native Ferns," published at 50s. (Groombridge) is a more elaborate work. There is also a convenient work by Hooker and Baker published at 28s., and for other cheap books we may mention M. C. Cooke's "Fern Book for Everybody," and a little work on the subject by Miss Radley.

73/143. *Bookseller* wants to know of the best book on the training and taming of entire and vicious horses, or any book containing information on the subject.

DISPENSING HINT.—Make it a rule to note down on the prescription whatever addition you find it necessary to make for the guidance of yourself or your assistant in case of repetition. Also note down the order of mixing, since a slight difference in the order may cause an entirely different appearance of the mixture, both as to brightness and to colour. In pills note the exact quantities of excipient added, in order to make the pills always of the same size.—Wiider in *Drug Circular*.